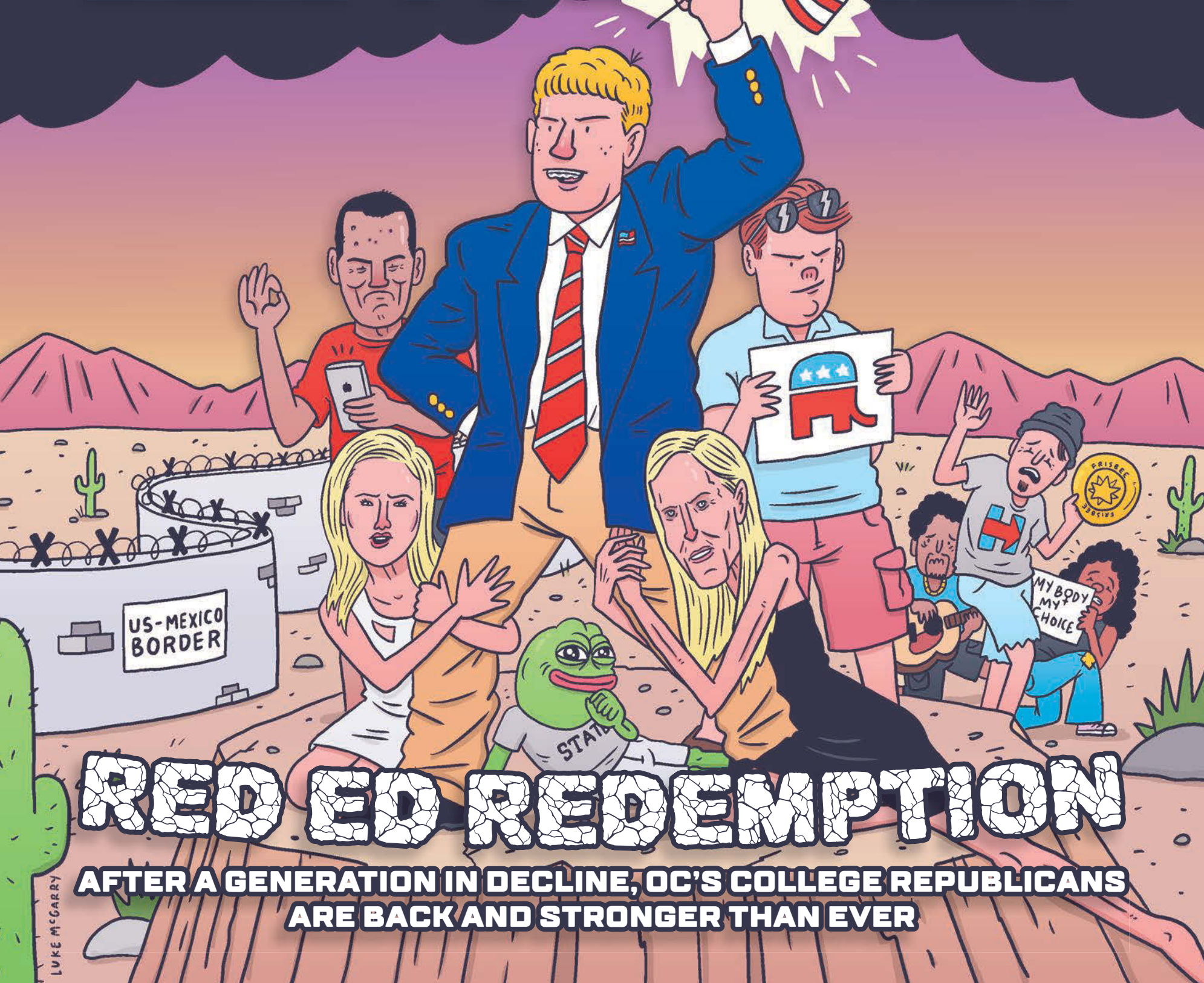


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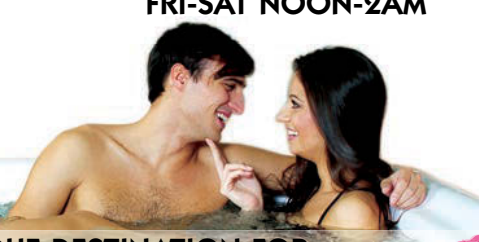
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STAFF WRITERS Mary Carreon, Matt Coker, Gabriel San Román
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Aimee Murillo
CLUBS EDITOR
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CONTRIBUTING WRITERS Reyan Ali, Dave Barton, Joel Beers, Sarah Bennett, Lilledeshan Bose, Kyle Cavaness, Josh Chesler, Heidi Darby, Alex Distefano, Edwin Goei, Michael Goldstein, LP Hastings, Daniel Kohn, Dave Lieberman, Adam Lovinus, Todd Mathews, Patrick Montes, Katrina Nattress, Nick Nuk'em, Anne Marie Panoringan, Amanda Parsons, Cynthia Rebolledo, Ryan Ritchie, Andrew Tonkovich, Chris Ziegler
EDITORIAL INTERNS Jeanette Duran, Jacqueline Linares, Jazley Sendjaja, Frank Tristan

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ART DIRECTOR
Dustin Ames
ASSISTANT LAYOUT DESIGNER
Mercedes Del Real
CONTRIBUTING ARTISTS AlGae, Leslie Agan, Bob Aul, Jared Boggess, Mark Dancy, Rob Dobi, Jeff Drew, Scott Feinblatt, Greg Houston, Cameron K. Lewis, Bill Mayer, Luke McGarry, Kevin McVeigh, Thomas Pitilli, Joe Rocco, Julio Salgado
PHOTOGRAPHERS Wednesday Aja, Bridget Arias, Ed Carrasco, Brian Erzen, Scott Feinblatt, Brian Feinzimmer, John Gilhoolley, Eric Hood, Nick Iverson, Allix Johnson, Matt Kollar, Isaac Larios, Danny Liao, Shane Lopes, Fabian Ortiz, Jeanne Rice, Rickett & Sones, Josué Rivas, Eran Ryan, Sugarwolf, Matt Ulfelder, Miguel Vasconcellos, Christopher Victorio, William Vo, Kevin Warn, Micah Wright

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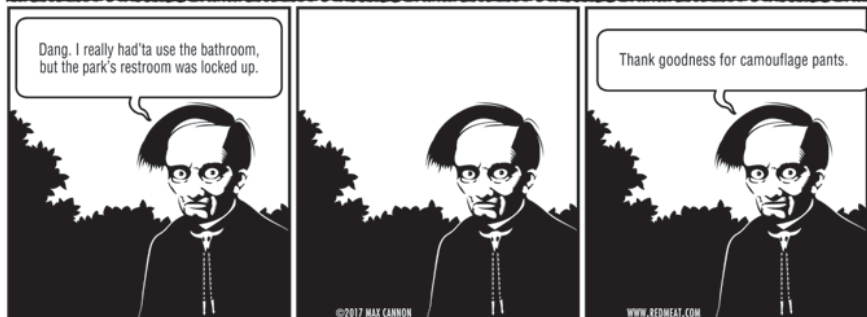


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A Nice Place to Live

In Fountain Valley, homeless on the Santa Ana River trail create an unlikely oasis
BY JEANETTE DURAN

A year ago, Victor Pacheco set up camp on the Santa Ana River bike trail near where Segerstrom Avenue in Santa Ana turns into Slater Avenue in Fountain Valley. He constructed a small tent of cardboard, wood and towels on a steep hill. Now, about 20 makeshift tents surround him—and Pacheco couldn't be happier.

"It only takes one seed to sprout a field of flowers," he says in Spanish as he takes in the midday scene. Many of Pacheco's neighbors are working or running errands, so it's lonelier than usual. But one of them, Francisco, returns on his bike in his Wienerschnitzel uniform. "We [the homeless] aren't best friends—we don't talk every day or know our personal stories—but we treat each other as neighbors," Pacheco continues. "We often lend each other food and water. I'm sick and live alone, so they check up on me and my cat. We make sure that we each keep our part of the river trail clean."

Pacheco's fellow homeless describe a similar idyll along Fountain Valley's stretch of the Santa Ana River. It's a place far removed from the rest of OC's homeless camps, mired in bureaucratic red tape, public scorn or Darwinian survival. A lot of the newer residents came from the large encampment near the Orange Crush that was literally buried under boulders and dirt three months ago. And when they arrived here, they learned the most important rule quickly: Don't fuck it up.

Here live characters out of a Steinbeck novel, creating a vibrant community in the face of wrenching poverty. Pacheco—who has been homeless for seven years—is shoeless at the moment because the soles of his last pair were worn through. Nevertheless, he keeps his space and surrounding area—even the nearby street—clean with a broom that he found in the trash.

Right across from Pacheco is a small piece of land that was just dry dirt for decades until a woman came to live below the bridge around the same time Pacheco did. "I've always loved flowers and decorating, so I do what I can with what I have," she says. She declines to give her name; instead, she shows off her urban oasis: orchids, petunias and marigolds; squash and tomatoes; fruit trees such as apple and lime; even a pineapple plant. Ceramic deer and a big turtle serve as decorations, along with a scarecrow. There are bird feeders, a birdbath, a cage with two green-and-yellow parakeets, a wishing well that the woman built herself, and solar-powered lights around the area so that it even looks nice at night.

Everything was either found by her, given to her by other homeless, or bought



THIS SIDE OF PARADISE

JEANETTE DURAN

with earnings from the recyclables she collects. "Both city and county officials have seen what I have created, and they have complimented it and just ask that I keep it clean," the woman claims. "I hope that they continue to allow me to keep this as it is because it's my hobby. I enjoy doing it, and it seems that people enjoy looking at it."

"I've been here for over a year, and it's great," says Chris, who has been homeless since 2012. He used to live in "The Jungle," the area near the Victoria Street bridge in Costa Mesa. There, a man burned down Chris' tent and his belongings because Chris wouldn't sell him his bike; the other man stole it anyway. "The cops come by, but they don't harass us; instead, they ask if we need any help with anything," Chris continues. "Once in a while, cyclists will be the only ones who harass us and yell out insults, but we all just ignore them. We are a community here."

Ron and Marissa are about three tents down from Chris. They have been a couple for nine years and homeless for eight; their dog Choco keeps them company.

"I've lived everywhere on the trail, up

and down the coast," says Ron as he sits on a lawn chair with Choco sleeping by his feet. "I've rented rooms in many cities near and far, but Fountain Valley has been by far the best. [He and Marissa] own bikes—we've never once locked them up, and we aren't worried that they'll get stolen. It's not that type of place."

Ron says even the businesses in the area don't hassle the Fountain Valley encampment, as long as people don't get too loud. It's a far cry from Costa Mesa, says Marissa. There, she claims, park rangers and police harassed everyone and even followed homeless out of the city. "Here [in Fountain Valley], some police officers interact with us and get to know us," she says while putting on mascara. Another young homeless man comes over to sit on the small patio set Ron and Marissa have. He begins to play on his guitar and sing a song. "I once had a policeman tell my social worker where I was because she needed to get a hold of me," Marissa continues. "It was very nice of him to go out of his way and do that. . . It's nice to be treated with dignity and compassion." (Fountain Valley police did

not return a call for comment.)

However, Fountain Valley residents interviewed by the *Weekly* weren't thrilled about the homeless in their city. More and more tents greet the thousands of commuters who enter from the city's eastern entrances on Edinger Avenue, Warner Avenue, Segerstrom Avenue and MacArthur Boulevard. But they give credit to the homeless for keeping things civil. "I've never encountered one to be disruptive or aggressive, so I have nothing bad to say about the local homeless," says a Fountain Valley resident, who asks to remain anonymous, as she walks out of Costco.

As the day continues, more homeless walk down the trail to their tents and greet one another. Ron and Marissa offer folks pizza and gummy worms. "We are gypsies, never getting stuck in one place, but we like it here," Ron says as he holds on to Marissa. "We might just stay for a good while."

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ask a mexican!»



» GUSTAVO ARELLANO

DEAR MEXICAN: I'm an American woman who has been living in Mexico for more than a year and a half. I

found an excellent job teaching English at a university, and as luck or karma would have it, I met an amazing Mexican man who treats me with respect and kindness and a support I have never known from anyone. He is a doctor here at the university. We're the same age, and although he is a chemist and I have spent the past decade of my life trying to be an artist, we get along sweetly, and I do love him a lot. I should mention we also live together, and in general, it runs smoothly.

Things are good. But there is still that, I don't know, American ambition, that voice in my head that says to me constantly that you have to keep going, keep achieving, you aren't making enough, doing enough, being enough. So here's my situation: I want my boyfriend to come with me, should I be accepted into the doctoral programs I'm applying for in the United States. But he has such a good thing going for him here in Mexico. He's a professor in a university; he is doing research and publishing. I feel like a jerk asking him to leave. I fear if he leaves Mexico, he would come to the USA and have to work some menial job at a restaurant even though he is a scientist. He was also born and raised in Mexico, and aside from study in Spain, he hasn't really experienced a separation from his culture, his food, his home.

But then I think of my life, and I can't just

sit here in Mexico and be in his shadow. I do not want to be the woman of the household while my man is out having a marvelous professional career. I have to think about my career as well, but I also do want a family and the support and warmth that he provides for me.

How do I do this? How do I have a career and the man I love at the same time? How do I ask someone to sacrifice so much for me? Should I ask someone to sacrifice so much for me?

Sad in Satélite

DEAR GABACHA: There's ambition, and then there's selfishness, and you, *ingrata*, are the definition of the latter. You already have a job and a man, yet you want to upgrade the former while forcing your *querido* to become a peon in *el Norte*, just because you don't want to be "the woman of the household"? Isn't that the position you currently hold in Mexico, a position you said yourself is wonderful? And you realize you'd be in a subservient position up here anyways, since the only income the two of you would make during your college years is whatever he could cobble together while your *apapachada* ass buries the two of you in student debt? Just leave him: You deserve him less than Donald Trump deserves a Mazapan de la Rosa.

ASK THE MEXICAN

at themexican@askamexican.net, be his fan on Facebook, follow him on Twitter, or ask him a video question at youtube.com/askamexicano!

HEY YOU!

» ANONYMOUS

Bad Nails, Worse Mom

You were the Latina mom with tattoos on her hands who brought her child to a pho place after getting her nails done. I first noticed you because you were simply loud. Then your phone kept making tons of noise. Then your little kid spilled hot pho all over himself and started crying—and it got harder to ignore you. You began yelling and cursing at your kid, and when he wouldn't stop crying, you began threatening him under your breath. Then you started complaining about your child ruining your nails over the phone to someone, raising your voice and cursing all the time. Here's hoping the next time your kid spills pho, it goes right in your piehole!



BOB AUL

HEY, YOU! Send anonymous thanks, confessions or accusations—changing or deleting the names of the guilty and innocent—to "Hey, You!" c/o *OC Weekly*, 18475 Bandilier Circle, Fountain Valley, CA 92708, or email us at letters@ocweekly.com.

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RED ED REDEMPTION

AFTER A GENERATION IN DECLINE, OC'S COLLEGE REPUBLICANS ARE BACK AND STRONGER THAN EVER

BY DENISE DE LA CRUZ

“We support free speech; let teachers teach!” chanted at least a hundred Orange Coast College (OCC) students at the school’s free-speech zone in December 2016. They stood with signs in support of Olga Perez Stable Cox, a human-sexuality professor who was in hiding at the time because of death threats. They came from around the world starting the day after the presidential election, when she stated in her class that voting for Donald Trump was “an act of terrorism.”

On the other side of the grassy quad stood freshman Caleb O’Neil. Blond and fit, with a strong jaw and a hel-

met of hair that gave him the look of a Kennedy cousin, he held his own sign: “Be Careful What You Wish For, Olga! We’re Standing Up!” He had secretly recorded Cox on his cellphone, then shared the video with OCC’s College Republicans chapter. The club put it up on YouTube, and it quickly went viral—and led to the school suspending O’Neil. Right-wingers rallied around him nationwide; locally, young conservatives sprung into action.

More than 20 fellow College Republicans joined O’Neil for the protest. Standing with them were older men in suits, including Republican Assemblyman Matthew Harper (R-Huntington Beach) and Shawn Steel, the

former chairman of the California Republican Party and husband to Orange County Supervisor Michelle Steel.

“I don’t think the students [Cox supporters] understand the difference between academic freedom and free speech,” remarked College Republicans founder Joshua Recalde-Martinez as he looked on. The issue was personal to him: A petition circulating around campus asked OCC to remove the sophomore as club president for his “partisan” and “out of line” behavior, which included appearing on FOX News to slam Cox and the school. (He’d later voluntarily step down to become treasurer.)

» CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

Red Ed Redemption

» FROM PAGE 9

Nothing eventful happened on either side during the rally. But in just showing up to protest, OC's various conservative student groups, from College Republicans to Young Americans for Freedom and more, can claim victory. In retreat for nearly 20 years as OC became more liberal and the California GOP cratered, the rise of Trump has inspired millennial conservatives to come out on campus.

Their actions get national coverage, thanks to smart social media and an alt-right press who claim a liberal conspiracy in higher education and are thrilled undergrads are standing up to it. College Republicans were there during the March 25 #MAGAMarch at Bolsa Chica State Beach, and graduates jeered during Cal State Fullerton's commencement, when Univision anchor María Elena Salinas spoke in Spanish and trashed Trump. Last September, Young Americans for Freedom members caught Saddleback College history professor Margot Lovett removing "9/11 Never Forget" posters with images of the Twin Towers from a wall. Former Breitbart News senior editor Milo Yiannopoulos spoke at UC Irvine last June and October, which led to protests against him, sanctions against the College Republicans that the university eventually had to walk back, and a permanent ban on Yiannopoulos speaking there. And in February, a "No Ban, No Wall" protest against Trump's immigration policies at Cal State Fullerton ended in a physical altercation between anthropology professor Eric Canin and a CSUF Republicans member, for which the instructor was suspended.

"I'm probably the most hated person on campus. . . . I love it," says Ariana Rowlands, a UCI senior who's already a GOP force at just 20 years old. The president of UCI's College Republicans has more than 31,000 followers on Twitter, on which she does everything from wittily debate tweeters to post pictures of herself in a star-spangled bikini. She's a contributor to Breitbart and Red Alert Politics, a youth website sponsored by billionaire Philip Anschutz. Last year, the David Horowitz Freedom Center invited her to speak, introducing her as "the future of conservative activism."

"[UCI student government leaders] bring up me or the College Republicans. . . . 'Oh those bigots! We should force them to do this; we should force them to do that,'" Rowlands says in a mocking tone. "Every time they do that, it just makes us stronger and gives us another opportunity to say, 'Hey, this is why the Left is bad.'"

But as Rowlands and her fellow travelers become rising stars in their movement, their progressive peers express concern. "It's just like [College Republicans] can intimidate, and they can troll, and they're going to do whatever they want until something very bad happens," says an anonymous OCC student who feels college administrators haven't done



ROWLANDS: "I'M PROBABLY THE MOST HATED PERSON ON CAMPUS. . . . I LOVE IT"

JOHN GILHOOLEY

enough to protect students from conservatives on campus.

"It makes me really nervous because it's not just isolated, it's not just going on here," says another OCC student with a concerned look on her face. "I don't trust them."

During the OC GOP's golden era, its youth wing had a consistent presence on all county campuses. During the 1980s, College Republicans at Santa Ana College (then known as Rancho Santiago College) hosted Nicaraguan exiles opposed to the Sandinistas; the Chapman University branch welcomed Oliver North when he spoke there in 1993. The movement continually brought new blood to the local GOP, and many became elected officials themselves. Longtime OC GOP head Tom Fuentes was a College Republican at Chapman; other GOP bigwigs such as Scott Baugh and Van Tran were involved in Young Americans for Freedom.

The trend continued somewhat into the 2000s, such as when UCI's College Republicans held a bake sale in 2004 mocking affirmative action, or when the same chapter displayed controversial cartoons featuring the Prophet Muhammad in 2006; both actions made national news. But after Barack Obama was elected president in 2008, College Republicans clubs across the county mostly faded away as millennials turned to the Left.

That started to change thanks largely to Rowlands, a Ladera Ranch native and child of immigrants (a father from Wales, and a Mexican mother). UCI's College Republicans are the merry pranksters of

the local college political scene, relishing any opportunity to troll liberals. They passed out baby pacifiers to protesters before Yiannopoulos' speech to give them a "safe space" and wore T-shirts that read, "Can We Take a Joke?" while inviting people on campus to write on their "free speech board."

Campus progressives fear them so much that, earlier this year, a rumor spread that the College Republicans were going to build a fake border wall on campus. Faculty and activists planned protests, even though Rowlands said they weren't actually planning on doing something like that.

But Rowlands is unapologetic about the "loud and out-there activism" of her club. The College Republicans represent a silent minority of students who are "very appreciative that there's somebody out there voicing their beliefs and not really caring about the Leftists that call them names or try to shut them down," she says.

"In the past year, we've managed to definitely influence the temperature on this campus a lot," she continues. "We're just trying to show other young people that there is another way of thinking, that it makes a lot of sense and that we're actually more tolerant of other ideas. [We're not] saying, 'You have to be this one way, or you're a horrible person,' like the Left is. That's what the Left has become—they've somehow masqueraded intolerance as tolerance."

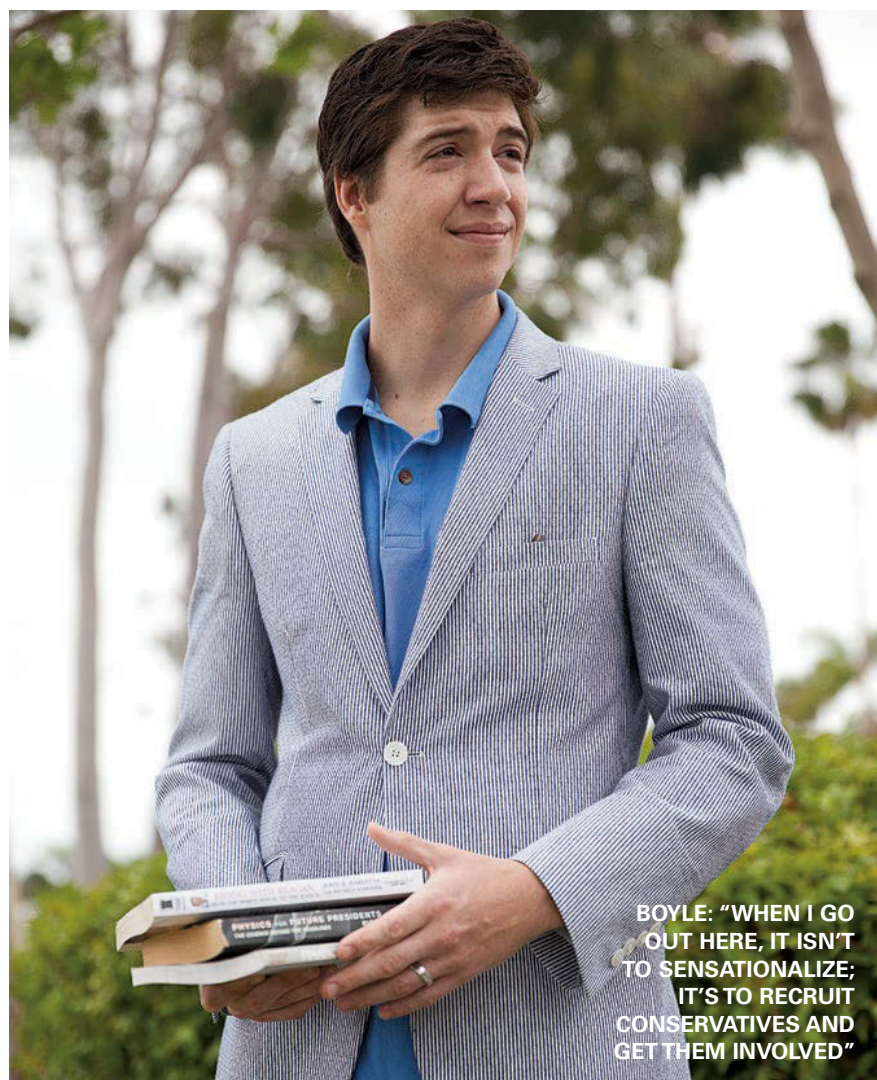
The former business major, now political science major hopes to continue to dismantle the "liberal monopoly on academia" in her current run for state chair of

the California College Republicans (CCR). She has even assembled a team called Rebuild CCR because she thinks the current organization is too focused on national politics instead of changing campus culture. On her slate is current OCC College Republicans president Vincent Wetzel, a self-proclaimed gay Hispanic Republican.

With support from the Republican Party of Orange County, the California Federation of Republican Women and the Lincoln Club of Orange County, Rowlands boasts that Rebuild CCR is "going to try to change the state so that all the College Republican chapters can be like the ones in Orange County."

Chris Boyle says Cal State Fullerton's chapter of College Republicans, CSUF Republicans, has grown to about 40 members since he restarted the chapter last semester after transferring from Orange Coast College, where he was a member. "At times, we've been able to work with groups like the College Dems to co-host debate-watch parties and other bipartisan events," he says. "But we also had an incident where a professor physically assaulted one of our students during a demonstration."

The fracas made national news, but some Cal State Fullerton students maintain it was all a setup. Boyle scoffs at the notion. "When I go out here, it isn't to sensationalize; it's to recruit conservatives and get them involved," the College Republicans president says. "Crying wolf would be counterproductive. . . . It would make us look unprofessional and unreliable, and that's not something that



BOYLE: "WHEN I GO OUT HERE, IT ISN'T TO SENSATIONALIZE; IT'S TO RECRUIT CONSERVATIVES AND GET THEM INVOLVED"

JOHN GILHOOLEY

I would be willing to [do to] lessen my [organization's] standing."

CSUF Republicans have since challenged university president Mildred Garcia for not personally and publicly addressing the altercation. "I think [the school's] communications director came out and said they affirm all free speech, but she said it on Twitter," Boyle says. That's a stark contrast to how Garcia responded to President Trump's victory and immigration policies, he adds: "The president of our university issued emails that went into the personal email boxes of every student on campus, showing them, you know, that they'd be protected against Trump and all this stuff."

Last month, CSUF Republicans were upset again when their resolution to create a free-speech education campaign on campus was denied by the student government. According to a press release from the group, it was the fault of the liberal-leaning Students for Quality Education (SQE), who successfully argued against the resolution, claiming "time constraints, unforeseeable ramifications and lack of free speech violations on campus as reasons for voting against the bill."

Boyle says the California Faculty Association and SQE have become "very antagonistic" toward them since the Canin incident. But conservative Titans have fought back. A fake "Real SQE" Instagram profile recently surfaced and posted a parody

flyer promoting a "Students for Quesadillas and Enchiladas" Cinco de Mayo fundraising event at an on-campus Baja Fresh. The flyer also stated that any time someone proclaimed Trump's infamous quote, "I love the Hispanics," 10 percent of the purchase would go to "Real SQE."

Cal State Fullerton's Academic Senate quickly passed a resolution condemning the flyer as "clearly designed for the racial mockery of Latinx students and groups." Boyle—who says that CSUF Republicans members run the "Real SQE" account but that it isn't a club-sanctioned effort—pushed back. "It would be absurd for [CSUF Republicans] to be a racist organization," he told the university's student newspaper *Daily Titan*. "Half of my executive board is Latino."

Like Rowlands, Boyle says established local conservatives such as longtime Cal State Fullerton donor and alumnus Steve Mihaylo (after whom the university's Mihaylo College of Business and Economics is named) have expressed their support for CSUF Republicans. Mihaylo recently drew heat after he trashed a Cal State Fullerton student on Twitter by asking him if he "ever considered getting a job" to pay off his student debt; the student replied by saying he already works two jobs on campus.

"[Mihaylo is] a great friend of the club. He's come to speak to us; he's actually

» CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

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Red Ed Redemption

» FROM PAGE 11

invited us onto his boat a couple times—he's a really great guy," Boyle says. "If I worked for him as a PR guy, I probably wouldn't have recommended him doing what he did. But he's a really good guy, and he comes from a good place, and he's done a lot to help this organization."

"I've heard from people that whenever Trump is brought up, people drop [their] poli-sci classes," says an OCC student who asked for anonymity. "I've had people say they're not going back to OCC because of what happened."

College Republicans insist they're the oppressed minority on college campuses across Orange County and that progressives make student life intolerable for conservatives. But a different story emerges from progressive students and faculty, who've been caught off-guard by the resurgent Right.

At OCC, students from organizations such as the Feminist, Pride and Planned Parenthood clubs received unsolicited visits to their meetings by College Republicans in February. When club leaders and advisers asked them to leave, the GOPers refused. They cited California public forum rights and said they were merely trying to foster healthier relationships between opposing clubs on campus. Liberal club members believe such unannounced drop-ins were petty tactics to antagonize, intimidate and distract them. In one meeting the *Weekly* attended, Wetzel showed up, then left and walked away with an older man in a suit. (A club leader told the *Weekly* two students left a meeting crying because they were upset by the College Republicans' refusal to leave.)

"Milo Yiannopoulos wrote an article on his blog in support of the Republican Club here, and that really scares me because they're connected to people who are known to put private, sensitive information out there for people to get doxed," says an OCC student who asked to remain anonymous for fear of retaliation from College Republicans.

"There's a degree to which both sides have misbehaved," adds an anonymous OCC faculty member. "There's this weird group dynamic going on in the College Republicans, and they've been emboldened for whatever reason and want to antagonize people. For me, it's even simpler than sort of intersectional feminism and identity politics; it's just, 'Didn't you learn not to behave like that in the fifth grade?'"

This faculty member also questions whether freedom of association rights are still applicable on public college campuses when GOPers employ such tactics. "The definition of a club in the club handbook is that you are like-minded individuals, right? And thus [you] can exclude non-believers. I've put that question out to both administration and a legal group, and I haven't yet heard a response."

The unannounced visits began in February, according to OCC progressives, while O'Neil celebrated his victorious appeal against the Coast Community College District Board of Trustees. They had originally decided to punish him with a two-semester suspension and force him to issue a personal apology to Cox and write a three-page essay about his actions. He defended his motives in a previous press conference. "I pulled my phone out because I was honestly scared that I would have repercussions with my grades because she knew I was a Trump supporter," says O'Neil, who ended up getting an A in Cox's course.

"You can have someone . . . like Caleb, who says he's afraid of people using words because words can be violent and words can be unsafe, and at the same time be at a rally two months back and yell at younger people than him that 'Feminism is cancer'—[to] people who are probably really scared to be in that crowd right now," says another anonymous OCC student, referring to a video taken last year at a Trump rally at the Orange County Fairgrounds across the street from OCC that was publicly posted on Instagram. The school's student newspaper, *The Coast Report*, reported that the young man wearing a MAGA hat in the video was O'Neil. "He doesn't care about freedom of speech; he just cares about being able to say what he wants to say and telling people to shut up when he wants them to."

In the weeks after the OCC College Republicans released the video, a student says faculty members with "ethnic-sounding" last names received threatening emails that warned them to stop supporting a "white genocide." That led to a student writing to OCC president Dennis Harkins, begging for support.

"Without a firm action taken to prevent racism, homophobia and xenophobia [manifesting in actions, language and ideas] by campus administration, these attacks lay in your hands," read an email. "Any silence on this matter will not be interpreted as neutrality; silence is allowance, it is compliance."

Harkins didn't reply.

"[OCC's College Republicans] have such wealthy lawyers they have the Republican Party funding them," says yet another anonymous faculty member. "They're being groomed and coached, and what they're doing is waiting for someone to kick them out. They're testing the college's policies so they can sue the college for being biased toward conservative students."

"Basically," the faculty member concluded, "the college got sucker-punched by them."

Adult OC conservatives have looked on with pride at their young wards and have offered to help when needed. KABC-AM 790 morning host John Phillips wrote for the *Orange County Register's* opinion pages that "OCC doesn't deserve the support or confidence of the taxpayers who fund its indoctrination camp." Recalde-



O'NEIL (RIGHT) WITH FELLOW OCC STUDENT PHILIPPE NOËL

Martinez has worked for Harper and Supervisor Andrew Do, and now works for Michelle Steele as an executive aide. Last December, California OC GOP royalty such as chairman Fred Whitaker and nine California elected leaders, including state senators Janet Nguyen and John Moorlach, sent a letter to Harkins discouraging disciplinary action against O'Neil.

"The College Republicans need support in their effort to ensure that conservative students receive equal treatment on campus and have the ability to report discrimination they experience," Whitaker later said in an April 3 press release. "As a former California College Republican state chair, I know personally what it's like to defend free speech on campus and protect the rights of conservative students."

Later that month, Moorlach introduced a bill that aimed to provide whistleblower

safeguards to college students. The proposed legislation sought to allow students to record in a community college classroom without an instructor's permission if the students "reasonably believed" they were capturing a violation of local, state or federal laws. The legislation died in the committee because of a lack of support in the super-majority Democratic California Senate. Unions representing teachers and faculty claimed the bill would allow students to record as a weapon against teachers they simply don't like or agree with.

The climate at OCC remains fraught. Signs reading, "Video and/or Audio Recording Without Instructor Permission IS PROHIBITED" are now posted in every classroom. Recalde-Martinez submitted several public-records requests looking for any mention of the "Orange Coast College Republican Club" to uncover any possible administrative biases; soon after, on-campus graffiti saying, "Doxx Joshua Martinez OCC Young Republicans = Fascists" and, "Support your local antifa" stickers were found on five buildings, along with a knife laying on the grass. In March, OCC student Robert McDougal was arrested on vandalism and hate-crime charges for carving a swastika and "fuck the nigger" on the hood of a campus-safety vehicle. And a "Black Lives Matter" art installation was mysteriously removed from the Arts Center building around that time.

The OCC Republicans condemned the latter two events on its Facebook page.

But then Cox was given a Faculty of the Year award in March by the Orange Coast College Professional Development Committee, which consists of faculty members, classified staff and past recipients of the award. The college GOP soon posted a meme on its Facebook page with a photo of Cox that read, "CALLS TRUMP'S ELECTION AN ACT OF TERROR/WINS TEACHER OF THE YEAR." That led to a contentious April 5 Coast Community College District (CCCD) Board of Trustees meeting, at which Recalde-Martinez, Rowlands and others demanded that Cox's award be rescinded.

If the December rally were heated but civil, the CCCD meeting showed how much worse relations had become between progressives and conservatives at OCC. Students who supported Cox were now in the minority. Several audience members in patriotic garb, long past their college days, held signs reading, "REVOKE OLGAS AWARD."

A facilitator at the Board of Trustees meeting had to remind audience members to compose themselves and refrain from interrupting speakers. When any speaker voiced opposition to the College Republicans, jeers burst from the crowd. But when the College Republicans spoke, none was interrupted by the audience.

"The faculty has decided to make Olga Perez 'un' Stable Cox Faculty Member of the Year; this is completely inexcusable," said Wetzel. He then called out Rob Schneiderman, president of the Coast Fed-

eration of Educators and consistent Cox supporter, for showing his "disreputable face here today" and warned his club will do everything to stop him from beating Congresswoman Mimi Walters in 2018.

Student Elias Altamirano voiced his support of Cox. "Despite the threats to her life, the constant mockery and insults posted in the [College Republicans] club's Facebook page by people who have no idea who she is," he began, "Professor Cox had the admirable courage to not let a few students ruin her commitment to this institution, her dedication to continue teaching and her passion for helping hundreds of students like she has done for over 30 years."

He then triggered conservatives when he said, "Ignorance is the root of all evil, and the fact that there are many here today attacking a person they have never met is extremely tragic."

"We met her on the video!" interrupted a woman, which sparked laughs and applause by College Republicans supporters in the audience.

"You may not do that again," the facilitator snapped to the woman. "If you do you'll have to leave."

Altamirano continued, "I love this school, and the faculty has been nothing but a great support to me. I won't let someone's [craving] for attention and a political platform ruin this institution I consider home."

This time, the conservatives in the crowd remained silent.

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fri/05/12

[CONCERT]

* BEATS BY ... Teebs

As one of the major players in Los Angeles' thriving beat scene, Teebs has consistently impressed with hypnotic tracks, from the lush, pastoral digital symphonies on *Ardour* to his latest, *ESTARA*, both released on Flying Lotus' Brainfeeder label. But besides music, Mtendere Mandowa keeps busy as a collage artist and painter, showcasing his works across the LA, New York and Japan art scenes. Teebs makes his way to the Wayfarer tonight to grace us with his musical creativity, which is as varied and beautiful as one of his collages. At this stop on his spring/summer tour, you'll also hear from local phenom and perennial favorite Free the Robots and jazzy hip-hop producer Lefto.

Teebs, Free the Robots and Lefto at the Wayfarer, 843 W. 19th St., Costa Mesa, (949) 764-0039; www.wayfarercm.com. 9 p.m. \$10-\$12. 21+. —AIMEE MURILLO

[ART]

Latest and Greatest 'Women of the New Contemporary'

After a move out of Laguna Beach and into the bustling Anaheim GardenWalk, Artists Republic gallery is wasting no time in getting back into the groove of showcasing its network of amazing artists. Tonight marks the opening of "Women of the New Contemporary," highlighting nearly 20 local and global women artists, including Suzanne Walsh, Chantal de Felice and Laurie Has-sold. It's best enjoyed with the adjoining solo exhibition, "Meet U On the Astral Plane" by Sara M. Lyons, whose colorful, eye-catching illustrations have made her a local favorite (she painted the mural outside the gallery, too!). Dive into both exhibitions, and feel the girl power coming your way.

"Women of the New Contemporary" at Artists Republic, 400 W. Disney Way, Ste. 137, Anaheim, (949) 988-0603; artists-republic.com. 6 p.m. Through June 25. Free. —AIMEE MURILLO

sat/05/13

[FOOD & DRINK]

* ALL YOU CAN MEAT

West Coast BBQ Classic

What's better than the best barbecue in Long Beach? Cue masters from all over the place will come together to make their favorite dishes at the Sixth Annual West Coast BBQ Classic today. This is pretty much guaranteed to be the most delicious thing you can do all weekend. While the grillmasters will be competing for Best BBQ title, there really are no losers when that much amazing smoked meat (and corn and other stuff) gathers in one place. Come hungry, then leave with a full belly and a severe case of the meat sweats.

West Coast BBQ Classic at Queen Mary Events Park, 1126 Queens Hwy., Long Beach, (877) 342-0738; www.queenmary.com. 11 a.m. \$24-\$39. —JOSH CHESLER

[FILM]

Worth a Watch 13th

Ava Duvernay's award-winning documentary *13th* looks at the federal justice system and how it intersects with race and society. The film—a shocking glimpse at how African-Americans are disproportionately jailed, while corporations profiting from prison labor perpetuates human-rights violations and is a modern-day form of slavery—was released on global streaming platform Netflix, but *13th* now gets a big-screen presentation at the Frida Cinema. Watch it with a live audience, then explore some of the film's themes in a discussion following the screening with Orange County Multi-Racial Collaborative, a local organization taking a stand against racial inequality and injustice. Don't miss this riveting eye-opener.

13th at the Frida Cinema, 305 E. Fourth St., Santa Ana, (714) 285-9422; www.thefridacinema.org. 1:30 p.m. Free. —AIMEE MURILLO

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sun/05/14

[FILM]

Don't Sleep On It *Sleep Dealer*

The co-curators of the Film Makers Film and Lecture Series at UC Irvine's Latin American Studies Program could not have picked a scarier time to screen the 2008 cult sci-fi flick *Sleep Dealer*, an anti-corporate, pro-ecological nightmare resistance story with the worst kind of anti-human cyber-exploitation and, just to make it interesting, U.S.-Mexico bor-

der politics. Shown at the Bowers Museum, Alex Rivera's film elaborates on virtual life and real slave labor through the introduction of the worst kind of personal electronic device imaginable: a node, which separates workers from their bodies and souls in service to industry. Love seems possible, but betrayal is more likely. And you thought you were getting too many emails from your boss!

Sleep Dealer at the Bowers Museum, 2002 N. Main St., Santa Ana, (714) 567-3600; www.bowers.org. 1:30 p.m. \$6; members, free. —ANDREW TONKOVICH

[SHOPPING]

Dazzling! Costa Mesa Gem Faire

One of the largest gem fairs in the country returns to the OC Fairgrounds—and hey, it's Mother's Day weekend! Coincidence? Probably. But beaders, jewelers, crystal enthusiasts and everyone else who likes a good bit of sparkle can be found milling up and down the aisles of this massive collectors' event. Weekend passes are cheap at just 7 bucks

for both days, so maybe take mom and buy her a little something. Also be sure to enter the raffle for prizes drawn every hour.

Costa Mesa Gem Faire at OC Fair & Event Center, 88 Fair Dr., Costa Mesa, (714) 708-1500; www.gemfaire.com. 10 a.m. \$7. —ERIN DEWITT

mon/05/15

[CONCERT]

Dance Fever Pomo

Tonight, avoid getting FOMO by hanging out with Pomo! The Canadian multi-instrumentalist and producer serves up a mean set of '70s and '80s disco funk beats, remixing obscure classics and dance hits alike. Deeply influenced by the Vancouver electronic music scene, as well as hip-hop, house and funk styles, Pomo's one of the most celebrated Canadian producers in the scene today. The award-winning musician finishes the West Coast portion of his Spring 2017 tour at the Constellation Room with synthesizer, laptop and turntables in tow. Come see what all the hype is about.

Pomo at the Constellation Room, 3503 S. Harbor Blvd., Santa Ana, (714) 957-0600; www.observatoryoc.com. 8 p.m. \$15. —AIMEE MURILLO

tue/05/16

[FILM]

MAKING A SPLASH

Proximity

Utilizing the latest technology and having traveled to the far corners of the world, director Taylor Steele (in his first film in four years) chronicles the lives and aquatic expertise of surf legends and today's most progressive young surfers through film, photos, VR and print media. Featuring Kelly Slater, John Florence, Shane Dorian, Albee Layer and six-time women's champ Stephanie Gilmore, among others, *Proximity* explores the "delicate relationship between time and place." It's a one-night-only premiere that includes prizes from Teton Gravity Research and Album Surf, so hang up your wet suit and go ogle some icons hitting the lip.

Proximity at Krikorian San Clemente Cinema 6, 641 B. Camino de los Mares, San Clemente, (949) 661-7469; www.tetongravity.com. 7 & 9 p.m. \$12-\$15. —SR DAVIES



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wed/05/17

[CONCERT]

* RETURN OF SUGARMAN

Rodriguez

Back in 1970, Detroit singer/songwriter Sixto Rodriguez's powerhouse full-length debut, *Cold Fact*, matched a gritty Lou Reed-style urban perspective to Dylan's agit-folk-rock sound to make the kind of record that should've been big. And it was . . . in South Africa, where he became a mysterious folk hero, and Australia, where he'd play fests with Midnight Oil and Men At Work. In America, however, he disappeared from history, with his music circulating mostly via bootleg until a 2008 reissue campaign and the break-out 2012 documentary *Searching for Sugarman*, which finally brought him into the spotlight in his own country. In a lot of ways, this is the archetypal "lost classic, rediscovered" story that drives so much music media these days—but it's hard to find a better "better late than never" tale than Rodriguez's.

Rodriguez at the City National Grove of Anaheim, 2200 E. Katella Ave., Anaheim, (714) 712-2700; www.citynationalgroveofanaheim.com. 8 p.m. \$45-\$65. —CHRIS ZIEGLER

[DANCE]

Dance Revolution Afro-Cuban Dance With Kati Hernandez

Within dancer Kati Hernandez's being rests a reserve of knowledge and skill set of traditional Afro-Cuban dance, and she is ready to share them with other dancers. Co-presented by Awaken Arts and the Womxn's Hub at UC Irvine, this two-hour dance class is part of Dance, Drum and Decolonization, a series of student-organized workshops meant to challenge UCI's current Euro-centric dance curriculum and highlight histories and narratives on the African diaspora through art. Each workshop aims to provide students tools for resisting cultural erasure in the larger academic art world. To learn from artists such as Hernandez, as well as feel included and empowered through programs such as these, is to be uplifted.

Afro-Cuban Dance With Kati Hernandez at Claire Trevor School of the Arts at UC Irvine, DS I28, West Peltason and Campus drives, Irvine; www.eventbrite.com. 6 p.m. Free with registration. —AIMEE MURILLO

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thu/05/18



MARIA JOSE GOVEA

[CONCERT]

Showing You the Way Thundercat

After years of making a name as one of the most versatile bassists in music, Thundercat is finally starting to get his due. His work with the likes of Kendrick Lamar, Flying Lotus and Suicidal Tendencies allowed Stephen Bruner to build an impressive résumé while honing a critically acclaimed solo career. His latest album, *Drunk*, has seen Thundercat finally steamroll toward the widespread praise his talents deserve. Working with a wide range of musicians from Michael McDonald (who appeared with him at Coachella) to Wiz Khalifa not only shows his musical range, but also proves his fusion sound has no limits.

Thundercat at the Observatory, 3503 S. Harbor Blvd., Santa Ana, (714) 957-0600; www.observatoryoc.com. 8 p.m. \$20.

—DANIEL KOHN

[FILM]

* REBEL ARTIST Art and the Zen of Motorcycle Racing

Artist Billy Al Bengston is the subject of the third documentary in filmmaker Dale Schierholt's California Masters series. Bengston is known as a rebel in the art community and one of the leaders of the Ferus Gallery artists. The title *Art and the Zen of Motorcycle Racing* is inspired by the association Bengston suggested between art and the motorcycle culture in the '60s, and the film centers on a lunch-time discussion between the filmmaker and his subject, who reveals the inspirations behind his work and discusses his fellow artists, contemporary California art and the changing art world.

Art and the Zen of Motorcycle Racing at Laguna Art Museum, 307 Cliff Dr., Laguna Beach, (949) 494-8971; lagunaartmuseum.org. 7 p.m. Free; advance tickets recommended. —SCOTT FEINBLATT

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5/19



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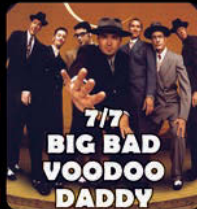
6/2



6/8



6/14



7/7

5/11 BIG DADDY'S BBQ
5/12 MARCIA BALL
5/13 OCS FUNNIEST HOUSEWIVES
5/14 THE RAT PACK LIVE FROM LAS VEGAS
5/18 BEE GEES GOLD (BEE GEES TRIBUTE)
5/19 RONNIE MONTROSE REMEMBERED
5/20 BILLY VERA AND THE BEATERS
5/25 LOS LONELY BOYS
5/26 JEFFERSON STARSHIP
5/27 DICK DALE
5/31 ROADCASE ROYALE - FT. NANCY WILSON OF HEART AND LIV WARFIELD
6/1 LUKAS NELSON AND PROMISE OF THE REAL
6/2 COCO MONTOYA
6/3 EROTIC CITY (PRINCE TRIBUTE)
6/4 JUDY COLLINS
6/7 JEAN LUC PONTY - THE ATLANTIC YEARS
6/8 XEB - ORIGINAL MEMBERS PERFORM ENTIRE DEBUT ALBUM "THIRD EYE BLIND"
6/9 JOHN POPPER OF BLUES TRAVELER
6/10 ZEPPELIN USA
6/11 THE USUAL SUSPECTS
6/14 JACKIE GREENE
6/16 DON MCLEAN "AMERICAN TROUBADOUR"
6/17 QUEEN NATION
6/18 PROJECT PRESLEY TRIBUTE TO ELVIS PRESLEY
6/23 DONAVON FRANKENREITER
6/24 AMBROSIA
6/29 TED NUGENT
6/30 TED NUGENT
7/7 BIG BAD VOODOO DADDY
7/14 JACK RUSSELL'S GREAT WHITE
7/15 MICKY DOLENZ (OF THE MONKEES)
7/18 TOMMY EMMANUEL



7/15



7/28



8/16



9/13



9/23



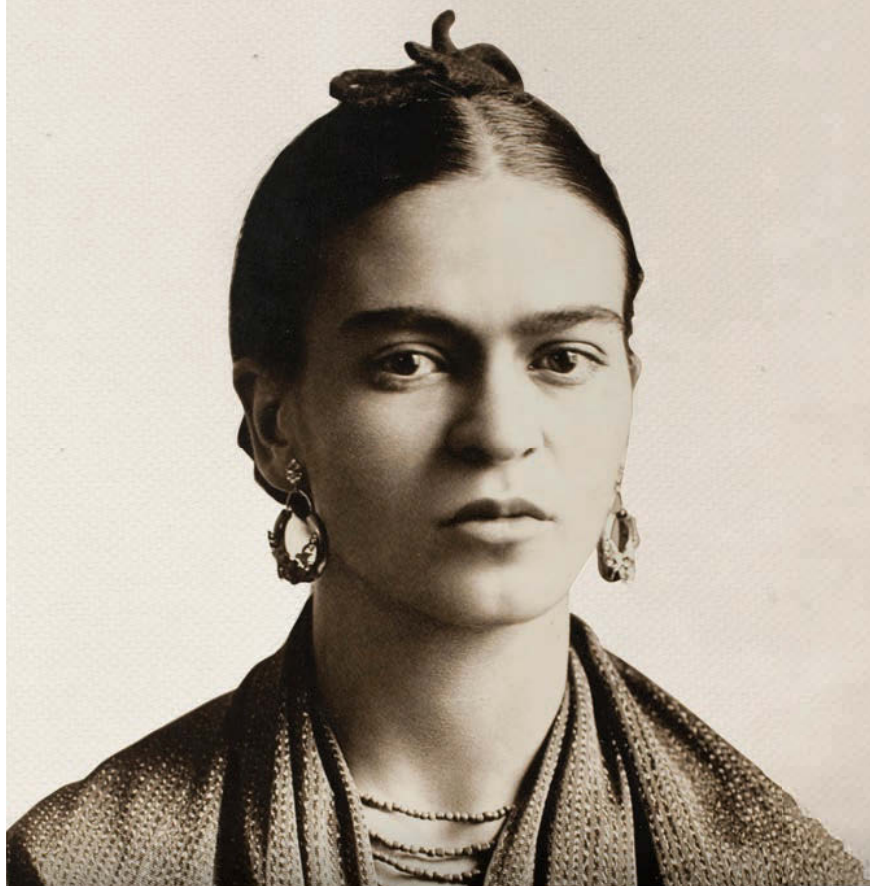
10/27 & 10/28

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7/21 COLIN HAY	9/13 IAN HUNTER & THE RANT BAND
7/25 BUDDY GUY	9/15 LEO KOTTKE
7/28 JOHN WAITE	9/23 PAT BOONE
7/29 BEATLES vs STONES	10/8 RIK EMMETT OF TRIUMPH ACOUSTIC
8/4 SUPER DIAMOND	10/26 OINGO BOINGO HALLOWEEN DANCE PARTY
8/5 DOKKEN	10/27 AMERICA
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By John Weispfenning, Ph.D.
Chancellor

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In a recent survey conducted by ValueColleges.com which looked at colleges around the U.S. who combined affordability and quality—Orange Coast College (OCC) ranked #2 in the United States for educational return on investment. ValueColleges surveyed the 1,717 community colleges in the United States that offer two-year associate degrees—evaluating graduation rates, cost, student enrollment, and American Association of Community Colleges membership. ValueColleges then compared that data with payscale.com's graduate salary information to compile a top-50 list.

ValueColleges had this to say about OCC, "Orange Coast College perfectly prepares students for 4-year college, but it also excels at bringing practical and technical education to a wide variety of diverse students, including a growing Latino population. With highly accomplished instructors, award-winning students, and an exciting location, Orange Coast College has everything necessary to make a great education."



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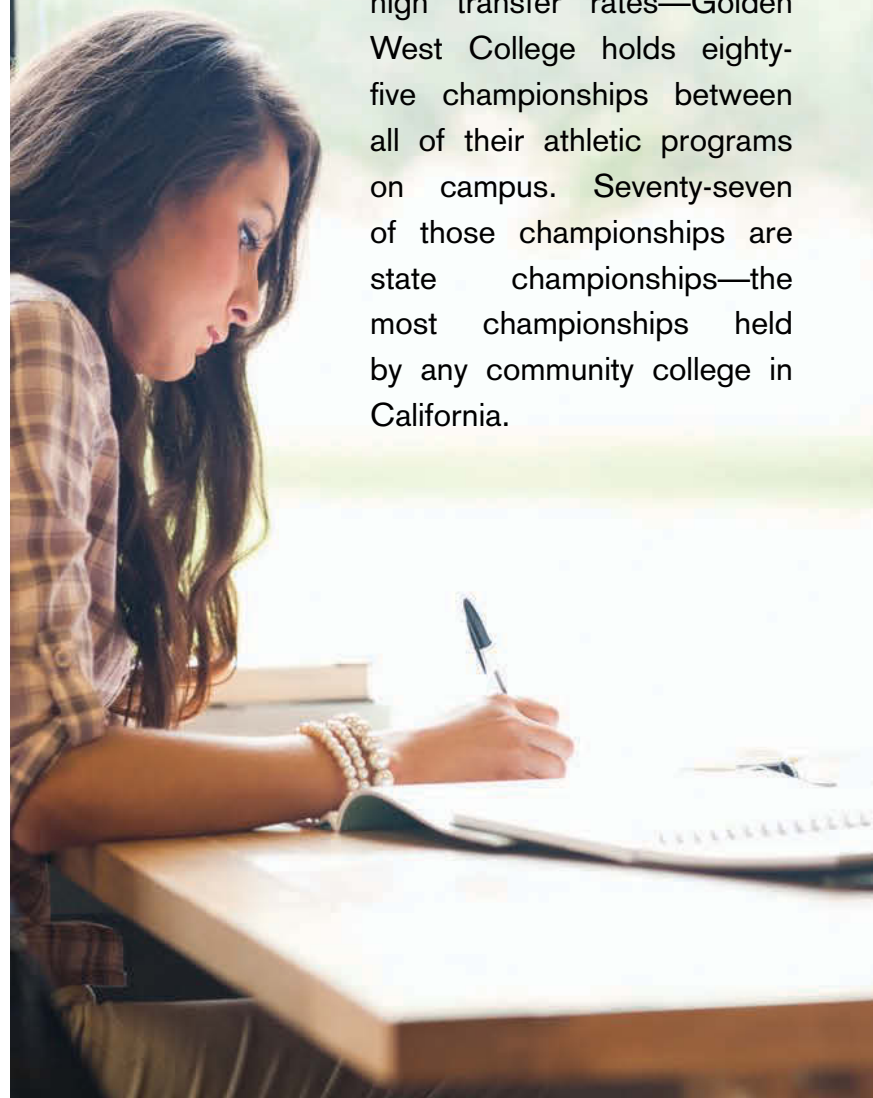
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The unveiling of Golden West College's (GWC) 50-year time capsule in 2016 revealed that the first graduating class comprised of 86 students. To date, one million students have studied at Golden West College. Their long-standing position as a top ten community college in California is attributed to their transfer rates, graduations rates, retention rates, student-to-faculty ratio, and distance education.

A report released by Niche.com in 2017 on the Best Community Colleges in America listed Golden West College as one of the best in the nation—receiving an A grade for diversity and an A grade for campus environment. Golden West College is located in the beautiful coastal community of Huntington Beach, also known as “Surf City” and is regarded as one the most beautiful campuses in Southern California. In addition to having a beautiful campus, diverse academic programs and

high transfer rates—Golden West College holds eighty-five championships between all of their athletic programs on campus. Seventy-seven of those championships are state championships—the most championships held by any community college in California.



COASTLINE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Coastline Community College recently celebrated their 40th anniversary with a yearlong celebration of their innovative programs and initiatives to help students succeed in our community. One of their innovative programs called Learning 1st, helped one of their students graduate with a Bachelor's degree through concurrent enrollment at a four-year university.

The Learning 1st program is a 100% online option program that provides flexibility, personalized academic guidance, support services, and high quality curriculum at a substantial cost savings. The unique program collaborates with four-year institutions such as Penn State World Campus, University of Illinois in Springfield, UMASS Amherst Isenberg School of Management, and Troy University.

The program takes into account tuition cost, flexibility, and time to degree completion. The Coastline graduate who earned his Bachelor's degree while at Coastline finished in three years, Summa Cum Laude. Several more Coastline students are set to graduate this spring and next fall with a four-year degree.

- Coast Community College District serves as a viable and accessible option for high school students to transition to college through a nurturing environment, small class sizes and affordable tuition.

- Coast Community College District provides a supportive atmosphere for first generation students who may face language barriers, lack of family support and financial constraints through programs, scholarships and cultural awareness.



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• Coast Community College District offers challenging curriculum, engaging faculty and global partnerships for our students who are eager to pursue bachelor and postgraduate degrees. The rigor of our programs set students up for long-term success.

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BRIAN FEINZIMER

Sheep Thrills

Hendrix in Laguna Niguel shows how good rotisserie can be
BY EDWIN GOEI

The first thing I saw when I walked up to Hendrix—the new Laguna Niguel restaurant by the group that also owns the Deck and Driftwood Kitchen—was the rotisserie. It resembled a vending machine, or at least the heavy-duty version of the “Set It and Forget It” contraption that made Ron Popeil famous. It had big knobs, glowing heating elements and wheels. Hendrix puts it up front as a not-so-subtle suggestion of what you should be ordering.

The appeal of it is undeniable. Whole chickens twirled and dripped juices onto trays of peewee potatoes. Beneath them spun porchetta and a whole leg of lamb on a spit. At random times, a worker walked out to tend to it or take off what was done, then return to a carving room visible from the hostess podium. And it’s in that room that he slices, chops and plates these roasted meats into three of the restaurant’s best dishes.

The chicken was the cheapest at \$19, but only a fool wouldn’t spend the extra \$2 for the porchetta or \$3 for the lamb. The porchetta is served as a giant, center-cut slab sitting atop the aforementioned potatoes. It is marvelous—a thoughtfully composed dish, complete with a savory, herbed jus that sloshes around the plate and pickled root vegetables that I could eat by the jarful. The tender meat, surrounded by melting fat, is moistened by that jus and balanced by the tang of the pickles.

I was surprised how much I enjoyed this dish. In fact, before I actually had

it, I was expecting something different. I thought it was going to be like what I saw online—just a bunch of meat piled on a cutting board as a do-it-yourself platter with the pickles and potatoes on the side, the jus contained in a gravy boat. But it turns out those pictures were of the sampler platter, which I’m glad I didn’t get. Not only would it have cost me \$50 (the restaurant requires a two-person minimum for it), but I also wouldn’t have been able to smash the potatoes with my fork tines to soak up every drop of that precious jus.

The leg of lamb was even better than the pork. It’s brought out in a warmed dish, the meat sliced and stacked, dolloped with yogurt and a minty chimichurri. As with all the rotisserie meats, it’s served with the same potatoes and that ambrosial jus, which I learned is actually the nectar captured from the dripping chickens.

It was after I licked the plate clean that I decided what I had wasn’t just the most rustic and honest meat-and-potatoes dish I’ve ever eaten, but it may be OC’s best lamb dish outside of Anaheim’s Little Arabia. Added to this, it was priced rather fairly, which I don’t have to tell you is a rare thing in Laguna Niguel, what with the Ritz-Carlton and Monarch Beach Resort just down the road.

Having it here, however, did afford me the perks of eating out in a town where a majority of its residents roll up in BMWs and Mercedes-Benzes. Perched high atop a hill, Hendrix boasts an interior design that looks like Frank Lloyd Wright meets IKEA. There’s a stunning bar at the center

and a lounge/dining room set around the periphery, where big windows swing open during warm afternoons.

Those customers who think nothing of spending a hundred bucks on dinner can get a bone-in New York steak for \$42, but there’s also a slew of small plates for the bar grazers, too. The crispy-fried fritters made from the rotisserie chicken meat and prosciutto had a creamy filling that tasted eerily similar to the chicken croquettes I bought at Porto’s last week. And to my surprise, the chef actually used yuzu kosho to amp up what would have otherwise been a prototypical seared-tuna-and-avocado appetizer.

To balance the rotisserie offerings, there are five seafood main courses, including a well-cooked Icelandic cedar-plank-roasted salmon shellacked in mustard and served with quinoa and citrus-fruit segments. On another night, I ate gigantic New Zealand mussels that came with crusty epi bread to dip into its Thai coconut curry broth—a broth that was so good and spicy I made another meal from its leftovers and some rice the next day.

I’ve also heard that Hendrix puts out a nice brunch. But when I go back, it’ll be to answer the call of that rotisserie lamb. I’ve never been less inclined to settle on Costco’s \$5 chickens than now.

HENDRIX

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HOLE IN THE WALL

» GUSTAVO ARELLANO

Beach Mex

NEWPORT BEACH CORNER CAFE
6710 W. Coast Hwy., Newport Beach,
(949) 548-7025.

The chalkboard menu at Newport Beach Corner Cafe said the sandwiches were strictly a DIY affair. There were no specials to save me—I had to pick the ingredients myself. And so I froze.

“Are you ready to order?” the kind cashier asked at least three times as I stood silently, mind lost in exponential possibilities. Bread, tortilla or wrap? Bowl? Cheese? Further distracting me was a case of pastries and rows of bagels. Behind me was a full liquor store, including a special cooler stocked with Jarritos and Original New York Seltzer. West Newport’s usual collection of surf bums from the nearby Frog House, retirees and barefoot tourists ambled in and out.

“So . . . I could pick any combo of things?” I finally sputtered. Hey, no one’s ever accused me of being smart.

But the café staff were young and kind. “Yep!” another girl chirped. So I began constructing. Sourdough and . . . jalapeños and . . . shredded jack-Cheddar cheese and . . . Sriracha mayo. I was going to ask for carne asada, then decided to look at the laminated menu. “Al pastor?” I asked.

“Wow, you ordered like a torta!” the guy said with a knowing laugh.

The results were simple but perfect. The al pastor, though cubed instead of shaved from a spit, impressed like it was from a SanTana *lonchera*. The sourdough’s crunch worked like a good bolillo. And while I initially hesitated to order the Sriracha mayo, it worked as a crema. A house red salsa didn’t impress, but the sandwich was so good that I totally forgot I had ordered it until one last sandwich edge remained.

Newport Beach Corner Cafe has become a personal favorite. The menu is mostly Mexican, but translated to Newps: burrito bowls, fat quesadillas, wraps and tacos—all delicious anywhere else in OC, but downright transcendent in this slice of sun-splashed heaven. The kitchen makes its own pasta salads, as well as a killer gluten-free banana bread. It’s a perfect place to load up on grub before hitting South Huntington or driving onto the Balboa Peninsula. If only every coastal liquor store-cum-deli was like this!

GARELLANO@OCWEEKLY.COM

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JACKY LINARES

Small, Unassuming, But Mighty

Tamales de chipilín at Panadería La Chapina

Tamales de chipilín are Guatemalans manifest: small, unassuming, but mighty. It's simply dense masa cooked in a corn husk and infused with leaves of chipilín, a legume that Central Americans use only for the *hojitas*. But the masa absorbs the flavor of the fragrant, herbaceous leaves—it's akin to tea in your mouth.

The best place to get them is at Panadería La Chapina in San Tana, where it feels as if your *abuela* made them. La Chapina ("The Guatemalan Girl") bathes its *tamalitos* in recado, a tangy, red tomato sauce and offers as a side a pan francés (thanks for that one, colonialism). You can get black beans and plantains to comple-

EAT THIS NOW

» JACKY LINARES

ment the dish, but it's already a meal as it is. We *chapines* usually only eat tamales de chipilín during September, the month that most Latin American countries celebrate their independence. But La Chapina does God's work by serving them year-round. You should also buy a bag of Tortrix—the Guatemalan Takis—while you're at it.

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DRINK OF THE WEEK

» GUSTAVO ARELLANO

Carrera at Tempo Urban Kitchen

Strange but true: Before I got into college, the only part of Orange County I knew besides my hometown of Anaheim and Fullerton was a 1-mile radius around the intersection of Imperial Highway and State College Boulevard. Everything I needed in my high school life was there: the Brea Mall, Craig Regional Park to make out with girls, Borders for books, Bobby McGee's to stare at MILFs, and an Edwards Cinema for art-house films. Foodwise, though, there was nothing.

That's changed over the past 20 years, and the boldest restaurant in the area is Tempo Urban Kitchen, an Alta California Mexican place packed from lunch through dinner. Greeting you as you open its heavy doors is an impressive tequila collection and a massive cocktail list. The bartenders do good work here, but I'm particular to the Carrera.



GUSTAVO ARELLANO

THE DRINK

Start with a base of Bulleit Bourbon, and I'm sold. Throw in orange bitters, and I'm in love. Add the Spanish Licor 43—thick and vanilla-y and just slightly fruity—and Carrera ("Race" in *habla*) turns into a Hispanic take on a Manhattan. But what ties everything together is, of all things, a sprinkle of cinnamon. The spice adds a depth that opens up all the other flavors, creating something sweet enough for dessert but strong enough for any *hombre*. Good job, Tempo—you're SO much better than the Hat...

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food»



SARAH BENNETT

Baba Gha-beer

The Green Olive is making Mediterranean eats inside a Bixby Knolls liquor store

In the early days of local craft beer—before it became ubiquitous—it took some work to find a bottle of something good. Back then, an IPA from Kern River Brewing or a six-pack of Firestone Walker DBA required a trek to one of the three liquor stores in Long Beach that had wisely started stocking such risky inventory.

Benson Liquor, on Fourth Street and Ximeno Avenue, was always my favorite. It was closest to where I lived, and I became such a regular that the man behind the counter stopped carding me and started offering me bottles from his secret stash of Russian River's coveted double IPA, Pliny the Elder.

So it made sense to me when last month (six years later), after emerging from a walk-in beer cave the size of a studio apartment wide-eyed and clutching \$20 bottles of rare beers I've never seen out in the wild before, the woman behind the counter at Liquor Land in Bixby Knolls told me it's thanks to the same owners as Benson's.

What doesn't make sense about Liquor Land, however, is how the Mediterranean restaurant the Green Olive came to occupy half of the place. Before you can get to the city's most in-depth selections of craft beer, wine (three aisles) and spirits (\$300 bottles!), you have to pass temptations of chicken kebab plates and a lamb-and-beef gyro.

According to the same helpful cashier, the new owners remodeled the 1950s-era Liquor Land about a year and a half ago, bringing in dark-wood paneling, multicolored DJ lighting and the epic beer cave. And six months ago, the onetime deli counter inside became the Green Olive, a mini-chain that serves a combination of Greek, Egyptian and Turkish cuisine throughout the South Bay and the 562.

There's a little of everything you could ever want from a Mediterranean place: beef, chicken and shrimp kebabs; beef and

Long Beach Lunch

» SARAH BENNETT

lamb koftas; lamb and beef gyro; falafel; dolmas; tabouli; hummus; and more. If you're craving it, it's probably available and done right in a hearty numbered combo plate, all of which come with aromatic saffron rice, hummus and a salad. And it's affordable; the max price for "The Works" is \$14.

The Green Olive seems to be doing a lot of its sales through online delivery orders, which is a shame: Half of the excitement of getting food here is walking into a liquor store to order, then browsing the extensive booze selection for something to take home to drink with it. That experience alone makes up for the fact that sometimes, the kofta is too dry and flavorless, the dolmas over-rolled, and the pita bread a sad piece of store-bought carbs (even brittle, as if left outside its plastic bag too long). If you take your kebabs without alcohol, you can dine at one of the few tables propped between the soda fridges and the chip racks.

Benson Liquor is still just an unassuming Eastside neighborhood liquor store with an impeccable craft-beer selection, but its owners have continued their legacy in Long Beach with new concepts such as the Bottle Shoppe on Naples Island and now Liquor Land, which just upped the ante for any store trying to compete for my craft-beer business. I might be able to get a six-pack of Firestone DBA anywhere these days, but between the Green Olive and the beer cave filled with hard-to-find wonders, finding a bottle of something really good makes the trek worth it.

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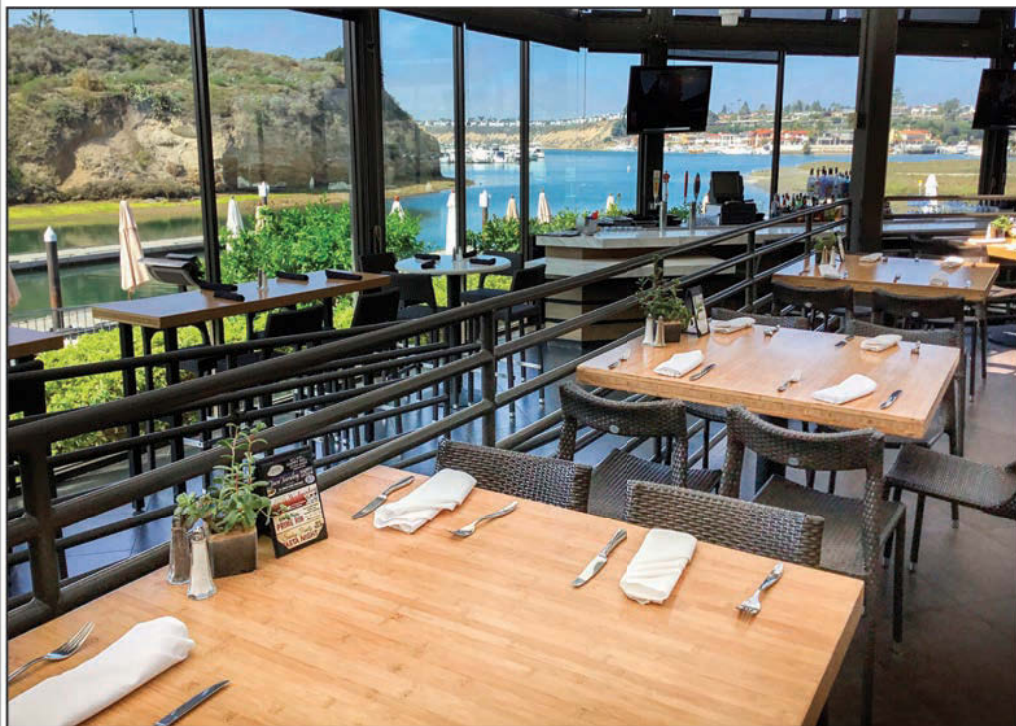


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Ghana Grindhouse

The Bowers honors the West African nation's outlandish cinema poster art

BY AIMEE MURILLO

Before movie posters were glossy, Photoshopped creations featuring recycled tropes of giant heads floating in negative space and text superimposed over faces, they were hand-painted objets d'art. If you're a movie buff, you know this—from the minimal hard lines of Saul Bass to the avant-garde imagery of Czech posters, designers once had an enviable imagination and the visual storytelling chops to entice a movie-going audience. Which is why the Bowers Museum's current exhibit "Reel Art" is so incredible; focusing on obscure 1990s-era film posters from Ghana, the collection's outlandish, campy brilliance reminds us of the exciting adventures audiences hope to experience, only filtered through an outrageous painting style.

The title "Reel Art" refers to a film reel as well as the hope these posters will be recognized as *real* art, which at that point was limited to fine sculptures and carvings. They are artifacts of the so-called golden age of Ghana's movie poster art that happened during the booming video-club craze from the mid-'80s to the new millennium and were created with oil paint by town muralists on 50-kilo sacks of flour. Promising excitement, intrigue and drama, these posters reflect the artists' interpretations of the films' subject matters and dive deep into the fantastical with ninjas, gangsters, supernatural beings and monsters. Artists such as Joe Mensah—considered the pioneer of the form and who taught others like him—Socrates, Jones, Sowwy, King, Samuel Art and others originated this wave of stylistic art that was both functional and graphically engaging, shaping the medium for generations after them.

According to the exhibit's notes and to Ghanaian movie-poster expert Ernie Wolfe III, the posters were central to the country's up-and-coming mobile video-rental system, in which traveling salesmen trekked to small villages throughout Ghana and Kenya to rent out VHS tapes and TV/sound equipment and screen local movie marathons of A- to Z-grade genre flicks starring big names such as Bruce Lee, Jean-Claude Van Damme and Arnold Schwarzenegger and their low-budget counterparts such as Lorenzo Lamas, Billy Blanks and Cynthia Rothrock. Whatever the film was about, discerning viewers



STEEL, 1998 / BABS (GHANAIAN, 1975 -) / 2014.28.37 / COURTESY OF THE BOWERS MUSEUM

would base their decision to rent a film on their fascination with the poster art.

Movies were usually rented for home viewing or—as was often the case—community screenings. And those screenings were poppin'. As Wolfe writes in his book *Extreme Canvas*, considered the quintessential book on Ghanaian movie posters,

"The kids who regularly attend the Saturday midnight screenings of *The Rocky Horror Picture Show* around the corner from my gallery in West Los Angeles certainly have nothing on the Nairobi locals when it comes to audience participation."

The heyday of video-rental clubs has passed, and collectors have bought many

of the film posters for their own enjoyment, among them Chapman University donors Jay and Helen Lavelly. The Lavellys, who have lent to similar exhibits of Ghanaian movie posters around the country, gifted nearly 40 posters to the Bowers' permanent collection, most of which is now on display at the Bowers' Susan and Steven Chandler Gallery. Showing some obvious wear and tear, obscure crime thrillers such as *Cyborg Cop*, *Killer Instinct* and *Once a Thief* are depicted with outrageous sensationalism (for instance, the *Once a Thief* poster has an explosion, while the movie does not). Rippling muscles, disproportionate figures and bright colors abound, the appropriate video club's name is painted in a corner, and the artist signing off his artwork on the material is akin to a graffiti artist signing a street mural. They're uniquely raw and energetic, and as director Walter Hill writes in a chapter for *Extreme Canvas*, "Many of these posters are more interesting than the films."

It might take a certain kind of person to appreciate these posters beyond their gawdy aesthetic, but one thing is undeniable: their flair for crystallizing the broad appeal of movie escapism. "It's a universal kind of trait that people love stories and being excited about legends and that kind of diversion," says Bowers curator Victoria Gerard. "These posters were made with a Ghana audience in mind. . . . Even though we relate to these images in one way, the people in Ghana might have related to them another way based on some cultural context, but the main message is the same."

Audiences can catch "Reel Art" until June 4, when Wolfe himself will be giving a lecture on West African film-poster art and the artists in the show, many of which he had the privilege of knowing. While Ghanaian film posters are still being painted in the vein of their progenitors today, Gerard notes, "what you really notice is that the quality of the craftsmanship is not the same."

AMURILLO@OCWEEKLY.COM

"REEL ART: MOVIE POSTERS FROM GHANA"

at the Bowers Museum, 2002 N. Main St., Santa Ana, (714) 567-3600; www.bowers.org. Open Tues.-Sun., 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Through June 4. \$10-\$25; children younger than 12, free; Ernie Wolfe III lecture, June 4, 1:30 p.m. \$9-\$12.

Multipass

BY MATT COKER

Sleep Dealer. Director Alex Rivera's film follows a young man (Luis Fernando Peña) from his father's Mexican farm to the border with the U.S., where he winds up in a strange factory that digitally connects his body to a robot working on a high-rise project in the States. *Reception and screening: UC Irvine, Humanities Gateway 1070, McCormick Screening Room, West Peltason and Campus drives, Irvine, (949) 824-6117. Thurs., May 11. Courtyard reception, 5 p.m.; screening, 6 p.m. Free and open to the public. Alex Rivera lecture: Biological Sciences III Lecture Hall (a.k.a. BS3 1200), (949) 824-6117. Fri., 1-2 p.m.; Tues., 5 p.m. Free. Latin American Studies In Motion screening: Bowers Museum of Cultural Art, Norma Kershaw Auditorium, 2002 N. Main St., Santa Ana, (714) 567-3677. Sun., 1:30 p.m. \$6; museum members, free.*

Short Films From and About the Middle East for Young Audiences. Frida Cinema and the Seventh Art Stand show short films including *Shirin's Dream* (Iran, in Farsi with English subtitles); *Displacement* (Malaysia, in Arabic with English subtitles); *The Magic Shoes* (USA, in English and Farsi with English subtitles); *I Am Aliya* (Slovenia, in English); and *A Year Without My Parents* (the Netherlands, in Dutch, Arabic and English, with English subtitles). *The Frida Cinema, 305 E. Fourth St., Santa Ana; thefridacinema.org. Thurs.-Sun., May 11-14, 6 p.m. \$7-\$10.*

Fanatic. Frustrated in a techno-heavy, pop-infested world, Thai Rocker sells rock records no one wants to buy in the heart of Saigon. When Thai finds a time machine in the middle of a forest, he goes back to 1996 to save rock music from disappearing. *CGV Cinema at the Source, 6988 Beach Blvd., Buena Park; festival.vconline.org/2017. Thurs., May 11, 7 p.m. \$14.*

Obsession. National Theatre Live's stage adaptation of Luchino Visconti's 1943 film is captured live from London's Barbican Theatre. *AMC Orange 30 at the Outlets, 20 City Blvd. W., Orange, (714) 769-4288; AMC Tustin Legacy at the District, 2457 Park Ave., Tustin, (714) 258-7036; Cinemark Century Stadium 25, 1701 W. Katella Ave., Orange, (714) 532-9558; Edwards Aliso Viejo Stadium 20, 26701 Aliso Creek Rd., Aliso Viejo, (844) 462-7342; Edwards Irvine Spectrum 21, 65 Fortune Dr., Irvine, (844) 462-7342; Edwards Long Beach Stadium 26, 7501 E. Carson, Long Beach, (844) 462-7342; fathomevents.com. Thurs., May 11, 7 p.m. \$18-\$22.*

Homeland: Iraq Year Zero. Iraqi Abbas Fahdel began filming what would become an award-winning documentary

a week before the 2002 U.S. invasion. *The Frida Cinema, Santa Ana; thefridacinema.org. Part One, Thurs., May 11, 7:30 p.m.; Part Two, Sun., 7:30 p.m. \$7-\$10.*

Senior Thesis Cycle 8 Film Screenings. These short works by Chapman University Dodge College of Film and Media Arts students are presented: *G.R.E.(T.A.) (PIT), River, Round Trip, Stop-watch, Time at Wood Pine and When Wigs Fly.* The public is invited to the no-cost event, but seating is first come, first served. You can also view it via live streaming at www.chapman.edu/dodge/student-life/live-event-streaming.aspx. *Chapman University's Dodge College of Film and Media Arts, Folino Theater, 283 N. Cypress St., Orange; chapman.edu/dodge/. Fri., 7 p.m. Free.*

Within Formal Cities. This architecture documentary is based on what filmmakers Brian Gaudio and Abe Drechsler collected from speaking with designers, residents and government officials in travels to Lima, Santiago, São Paulo, Rio De Janeiro and Bogotá. *Orange County Museum of Art, 850 San Clemente Dr., Newport Beach, (949) 759-1122. Fri., 7 p.m. Free.*

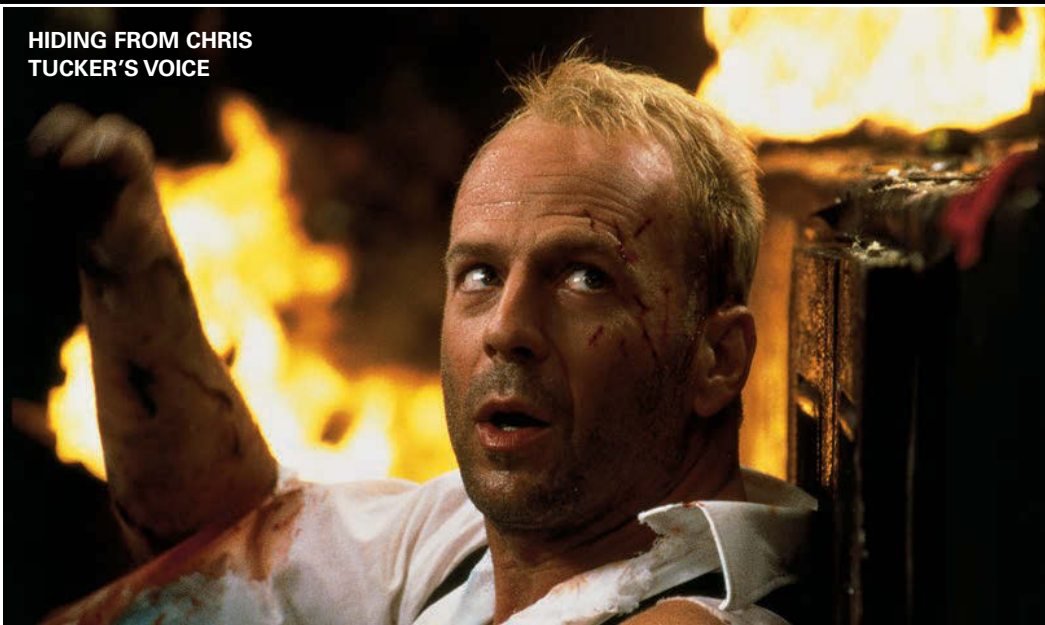
Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets. Harry is haunted by a strange voice as he returns to a Hogwarts plagued by mysterious attacks. This week, you have two ways to see the second film in J.K. Rowling's franchise—this one directed by Chris Columbus: as it was when it came out in 2002, with John Williams' prerecorded score, or with that music performed live by the 90-piece Pacific Symphony Orchestra. *Orchestra screening: Renee and Henry Segerstrom Center for the Arts, 600 Town Center Dr., Costa Mesa, (714) 556-2787; harrypotterinconcert.com. Fri., 7:30 p.m.; Sat., 2 & 7:30 p.m. \$39-\$89. Original screening: Regency Directors Cut Cinema at Rancho Niguel, 25471 Rancho Niguel Rd., Laguna Niguel, (949) 831-0446. Tues., 7:30 p.m. \$8.*

New Muslim Cool. A documentary by Puerto Rican-American rapper Hamza Pérez, who pulled himself out of drug dealing and street life, became a Muslim, and moved to Pittsburgh to start a new religious community. *The Frida Cinema, Santa Ana; thefridacinema.org. Fri., 7:30 p.m. \$7-\$10.*

13th. Ava Duvernay's controversial and award-winning documentary about the criminal-justice system. *The Frida Cinema; thefridacinema.org. Sat., 1:30 p.m. Free.*

Chinatown. The fictional retelling of the true story of how Los Angeles acquired the rights to the Owens Valley's water and diverted it to the city, permitting LA to grow and prosper and for land inves-

HIDING FROM CHRIS TUCKER'S VOICE



SONY PICTURES

tors to become wealthy by snatching up real estate that would be given plentiful access to water. *The Frida Cinema; thefridacinema.org. Sat., 5 & 8 p.m. \$7-\$10.*

Grad Thesis Cycle 6 and 7 Film Screenings. *James Joyce's The Sisters, Last Night in Town, The Quiet Room, Untitled Parallel Not-Love Story* and a title to be determined. *Chapman University's Dodge College of Film and Media Arts, Folino Theater; chapman.edu/dodge/. Sat., 7 p.m. Free.*

Tadmor. Award-winning documentary about former Lebanese detainees breaking their long-held silence about the horrific years they spent imprisoned in one of the Assad regime's most dreadful prisons in Syria. *The Frida Cinema; thefridacinema.org. Sat., 7:30 p.m. \$7-\$10.*

Der Rosenkavalier. Renée Fleming sings one of her signature roles as the Marschallin, opposite Elina Garanca in her first North American performances as Octavian, the impulsive young title character. *AMC Marina Pacifica, 6346 E. Pacific Coast Hwy., Long Beach, (562) 430-8790; AMC Orange 30 at the Outlets, (714) 769-4288; AMC Tustin Legacy at the District, (714) 258-7036; Cinemark Century Stadium 25, (714) 532-9558; Cinemark Century 20 Huntington Beach, 7777 Edinger Ave., Huntington Beach, (714) 373-4573; Cinemark at the Pike Theaters, 99 S. Pine Ave., Long Beach, (800) 967-1932; Edwards Aliso Viejo Stadium 20, (844) 462-7342; Edwards Irvine Spectrum 21, (844) 462-7342; Edwards Long Beach Stadium 26, (844) 462-7342; fathomevents.com. Sun., 9:30 a.m.; Wed., 6:30 p.m. \$18-\$24.*

Mommie Dearest. Celebrate Mother's Day with one of the most (in)famous mummies of all, Joan Crawford (as bril-

liantly played in no-wire-hangers glory by Faye Dunaway). *The Frida Cinema; thefridacinema.org. Sun., 1:30 p.m. \$7.*

A New Day in Old Sana'a. Tariq, a young photographer from an aristocratic family, must choose between running away with his love, Ines, a nagsh skin artist from the lower class, or going through with his arranged marriage to Bilquis, the daughter of a prominent judge. *The Frida Cinema; thefridacinema.org. Sun., 2 p.m. \$7-\$10.*

The Fifth Element. Big Apple cabbie Korben Dallas (Bruce Willis) discovers the fate of the world is contained within the mysterious Leeloo (Milla Jovovich), who literally drops from the sky and into his life. To save humanity, he must protect her from the evil industrialist Zorg (Gary Oldman), who is embroiled in an intergalactic war between the Mondoshawans and the Mangalores. *AMC Fullerton 20, 1001 S. Lemon St., Fullerton, (714) 992-6962; AMC Orange 30 at the Outlets, (714) 769-4288; AMC Tustin Legacy at the District, (714) 258-7036; Cinemark Century Stadium 25, (714) 532-9558; Edwards Aliso Viejo Stadium 20, (844) 462-7342; Edwards Foothill Towne Center Stadium 22, 26602 Towne Center Dr., Foothill Ranch, (949) 588-9402; Edwards Irvine Spectrum 21, (844) 462-7342; Edwards Long Beach Stadium 26, (844) 462-7342; Edwards Market Place Stadium 10, 13782 Jamboree Rd., Irvine, (844) 462-7342; Edwards Metro Pointe Stadium 12, 901 South Coast Dr., Costa Mesa, (714) 428-0962; Regal Garden Grove Stadium 16, 9741 Chapman Ave., Garden Grove, (844) 462-7342; Regal La Habra Stadium 16, 1351 W. Imperial Hwy., La Habra, (562) 690-4909; fathom events.com. Sun. & Wed., 2 & 7 p.m. \$12.50.*

The Letter: An American Town and "The Somali Invasion." This award-winning documentary follows what happened in post-9/11 Lewiston, Maine, after the mayor sent an open letter to newly arrived Somali refugees telling them not to settle in the city because its resources were supposedly stretched thin. *The Frida Cinema; thefridacinema.org. Sun., 4 p.m. Free.*

Sunset Boulevard. From 1950 and the mind of Billy Wilder comes one of the best skewerings of Hollywood and fame. *Regency South Coast Village, 1561 Sunflower Ave., Santa Ana, (714) 557-5701. Wed., 7:30 p.m. \$8.*

Young Frankenstein. The best comedy collaboration with Mel Brooks to display Gene Wilder's genius writing and comedic acting is this 1974 black-and-white feature that casts him as young neurosurgeon Frederick Frankenstein (pronounced "Fronkensteen"), who reluctantly inherits his disgraced grandfather Dr. Victor von Frankenstein's castle, laboratory and humpback assistant Igor (pronounced "Eye-gore" and played by bug eyed Marty Feldman). *The Frida Cinema; thefridacinema.org. Wed.-Thurs., May 17-18, 8 p.m. \$7-\$10.*

Art and the Zen of Motorcycle Racing (or Lunch with Billy AI). The documentary about artist Billy AI Bengston, who has work that is part of the Laguna Art Museum-produced California Masters series, screens as part of the museum's 2017 Film Night program with special-guest presenter Dale Schierholt, the film's director. *Laguna Art Museum, 307 Cliff Dr., Laguna Beach, (949) 494-8971. Thurs., May 11, 7 p.m. Free with museum admission.*

MCOKER@OCWEEKLY.COM

The Examined Life

'Doorway to Joe: The Art of Joe Coleman' looks into the gaping maw of humanity

BY DAVE BARTON

Your ability to stomach the grotesqueries of everyday life will determine how much you're going to get out of the Begovich Gallery's "Doorway to Joe: The Art of Joe Coleman." This solo exhibition by the New York artist, accessibly curated by Sara Fortson and Mike McGee, is a litany of depravity—serial killers, voyeurism, religious fanaticism, body horror and sexual shame—the kind of show that doesn't go away even after you do. The warning at the front door about "adult themes" isn't hype; it's truth in advertising. Grab a magnifying glass at the entry table so you can catch every gory detail.

The curator notes tell us Coleman considers every painting a self-portrait, and he's bold and brutal, giving himself away bit by bit: His fetishes, morbidity, sexual insecurities, terrors and inadequacies are all on display. The intimacy of his paintings—even when sympathetically dissecting the abused backgrounds of murderers—are compulsively revealing. While it sometimes feels as if an insane person is grabbing and shaking you while screaming his lonely misanthropy in your face, this is gritty punk-rock truth of the highest order.

As with painted novels you hang on your walls—comic books an obvious influence—Coleman's images are often broken up into tiny narrative vignettes that encircle a portrait of the person he's painting. His two larger-than-life-size portraits of himself (*Doorway to Joe*) and his wife (*Doorway to Whitney*), just to the right of the entrance, break down the numerous influences on the couple. For Coleman, it's people as diverse as performance artist and filmmaker Kembra Pfahler, poet William Blake, and noir novelist Jim Thompson. The faces of loved ones hovering over each of them in a protective barrier reminded me of religious paintings, with saints encircling Christ in heaven. It's a rare, affectionate moment in a show otherwise drenched in revulsion, but it's indicative of their attachment to friends; their deep, inviolate connection to each other; and their status as outsiders. Even as awash in misanthropic megalomania as it is, his painting *The Book of Revelations*, with Coleman and his wife seated in front of a rainbow, pitching their enemies into eternal hellfire, feels confessional and romantic.

Coleman's obsessions continue into the second part of the gallery, with many of the pictures of celebrities and murderers echoing his personal concerns about dysfunction, addiction, mothers and fathers, history, and women. Text



JOE COLEMAN

snakes its way around the short stories as though an alimentary track, circling and separating the distilled, troubling images of sexual assault, violence and disease. This provides a brief breather from the horror, while also leading your eyes to the next trauma. It's Coleman's scholarship that's most impressive, more so than his shock value, with it abundantly clear that his breadth of knowledge on the dark subjects on display is thorough and well-researched.

The portrait of a decapitated Jayne Mansfield (*American Venus*) details the accident that killed her, her role as a Hollywood sexpot, as well as her discipleship in the Church of Satan. *Descent Into the Maelstrom of Edgar Allen Poe's* monographs chronicle the writer's dead mother and literary references to ravens and tell-tale hearts, with a writing shaky enough to suggest *delirium tremens*. *Psycho* inspiration *Ed Gein* is seated, hands folded gracefully, his mother painted in the same position above his head, an omniscient god looking down on the scattered pieces of butchered women he kept in his barn and home. All of the acrylic-on-Masonite pieces are vividly painted, the green outlines around many of his subjects a radioactive glow, the gaping wounds vivisection red, disfigurement—via virulent tumor or human mayhem—explicit in their intestinal yellows and pinks.

Why would you put yourself through this? I'd say attend out of respect for Coleman's prodigious talent; he rarely exhibits out here, and there's so much to see and take in. Each piece of work is so complex in its creation and presentation that one could easily spend hours in the gallery, a Sherlock Holmes looking for all of the Easter eggs in the work.

It's good for the constitution as well. Yes, the things we might Google in the privacy of our own homes being splashed across the perfect crimson walls of a public gallery can be startling, but you're in control, in a way you probably aren't in the real world. And you can walk in and walk away if you wish. Avert your eyes if you must, but Coleman is there—in your ear, whispering, his breath on your neck, guiding your face back to the mirror of society he's painted. Coleman's disgust with the way things are—and there is as much dread as there is fascination—is palpable, unforgiving. And he expects you to face that horror with him.

"DOORWAY TO JOE: THE ART OF JOE COLEMAN"

at Cal State Fullerton's Nicholas & Lee Begovich Gallery, 800 N. State College Blvd., Fullerton, (714) 278-2011; www.fullerton.edu/arts/art/galleries/begovich_gallery/index.php. Open Mon.-Thurs., noon-4 p.m.; Sat., noon-4 p.m. Free (but you'll have to pay for parking).

TRENDZILLA

» AIMEE MURILLO

Fullerton-Famous

As an illustrator and painter, Priscilla Moreno creates whimsical, often-bespectacled characters with minimal lines, exaggerated facial features and bold, bright colors. The LA-born, Fullerton-raised artist says she has been doodling since she was a child and bases each odd character on herself. "I've always been interested in drawing the characteristics of people and [their] expressions," she says.

Her style is fun and ranges from a defined portrait of a face to a silly figure drawn with limited lines and text. The secret to her prolific business is the note cards she carries everywhere; she'll doodle an idea, then bring out the card later to work on it in a larger scale, whether in print, on totebags or pins, or as framed paintings.

There's a distinctly vintage feel to her art, recalling midcentury modern-era UPA animated cartoons and editorial comic strips. Among her inspirations are Virgil Parth, an American gag cartoonist who worked mostly throughout the '40s and '50s; Shel Silverstein, author and cartoonist known best for such children's books as *Where the Sidewalk Ends* and *The Giving Tree*; and her grandfather, another artist who, like Moreno, was self-taught.

With solo shows at Hibbleton Gallery and Rialto Cafe, plus monthly pop-ups at Fullerton's new Wayfare, Moreno's work and name are gaining notice in the local art community. In between shows, Moreno lends her talents to creating logos, chalkboard signs for restaurants, and even skateboard wheels. She is frequently commissioned for family portraits and sells plenty of original artwork on her Etsy (www.etsy.com/shop/ohpriscillamoreno) and Instagram (@preemoreno). Moreno finds the artist grind to be hard at times, but "note cards always help," she says. "It's a reminder that I'm always drawing. And I never want to stop."

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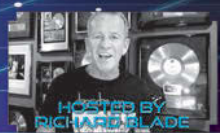
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A Return to Form, Among Other Things

At the Drive-In recommit to their explosive union on new album *in•ter a•li•a*
BY NATE JACKSON

The word *reunion* is a loaded term in the life cycle of a band. Often, it's simply an attempt to bask in the glow of an album anniversary or cash in on nostalgia by playing the hits. But when At the Drive-In announced their return to the world, drummer Tony Hajjar says, they do so with the intent of writing a new chapter in their history, one that could be just as powerful, progressive and pissed-off as those that came before it.

"We're not the band that got back together, and we're playing all our old songs, and hopefully, they don't suck," Hajjar says. "We crossed the line, and now we're a current band, and it's a new challenge for us."

Even before word spread about the release of their new album, *in•ter a•li•a* (out May 5 via Rise Records), At the Drive-In were more than ready to take on the challenge. The band formed in 1994, but they broke up in 2001 after three albums and five EPs. There was a bumpy return in 2012, when they came back for a tour just prior to the death of guitarist/vocalist Omar Rodriguez-Lopez's mother. "Back then, we immediately went into 'take care of our brother' mode," Hajjar says. "But we had 10 shows still scheduled. And we did them, and he did them even though it was really hard for him because we all wear our hearts on our sleeves."

But in May 2016, a sold-out crowd greeted a re-energized version of At the Drive-In at the Observatory in Santa Ana. The seething intensity behind Hajjar's drumming, the steadfast growling bass of Paul Hinojos, the intense axemanship of Rodriguez-Lopez and the high-flying, serpentine charisma of Cedric Bixler-Zavala made their return to form self-evident. Former Sparta guitarist Keeley Davis—the last-minute replacement for co-founding member Jim Ward, who bowed out right before the tour—felt less like a sideman and more like an integral part of the group's complex, battle-tested chemistry.

The seeds of that successful return were actually sown a year before in a hotel room in their hometown of El Paso, Texas. "We said, 'Okay let's cross this line,'" Hajjar remembers. "If we cross this line, we're in; if we're doing this, we're doing it right. We're writing a record on the road, and we're doing a bunch of shows, not just 10—we're doing it right."

At that point, the band dropped the idea of doing a reunion and simply focused on a successful union. They soon embarked

on a three-month tour, writing songs on the road before going into the studio in late November. Throughout the process, the band did their best to put zero pressure on themselves, except right before it would be time to play a show. "The only thing that hasn't changed about us is that we always feel like the world is against us," Hajjar says. "That's how we get on that stage."

Obviously, 16 years of artistic and personal growth have had their effect on the band, not to mention how individually prolific each of them has been in that amount of time. Bixler-Zavala and Rodriguez-Lopez focused on their dub side-project De Facto and later formed the Mars Volta; Ward, Hinojos and Hajjar, meanwhile, started Sparta. Hajjar has also scored film trailers and played with his all-star band Gone Is Gone, featuring members of Mastodon and Queens of the Stone Age.

Yet even after all the time between albums, *in•ter a•li•a* (a Latin term meaning "among other things") feels like a natural continuation in At the Drive-In's discography, full of explosive rhythms and hyper-literate angst. Artist Damon Locks, who also did the cover art for their previous full-length album, 2000's *Relation-*

ship of Command, signed on to create the artwork for the new album, as well as the videos for singles "Governed by Contagions" and "Incurably Innocent."

Part of recapturing their former essence was also writing songs as a unit. Hajjar takes pride in the fact that both of these singles were created while on the road. The chorus for "Governed by Contagions" came about during a jam session. "Paul wrote the main riff for that one," Hajjar recalls. "But the main chorus came from me actually making a mistake into the next part, so I started playing a tom part, and Omar was like, 'Fuck! That! That! That!' That's how that one came out."

The basis for the sound of "Incurably Innocent" was written by Davis, who was hand-picked by Hajjar to fill Ward's slot after their co-founder bowed out of the tour, leaving the band without a vital member and writing partner. However, Davis—who'd just gotten out of surgery after a horrible motorcycle accident that almost caused the amputation of his foot—fit into the groove seamlessly, just as he did when he stepped in to join Sparta in 2006. "When we had to make a very quick decision to bring someone in or cancel another tour, it was kinda hard, and the guys asked me who should we call," Hajjar says. "I

said hands down, it should be Keeley. . . I thought of anyone coming in and making the situation a little more positive, he was the first person that came to mind. I love how he plays. I love how he plays onstage; I love him as a person offstage."

In the studio, the group relied on producer Rich Costey to capture their current sound. "I think the chemistry of the record is different," Hajjar says. "It's not gonna sound like *Relationship of Command*. If anything, I think the record is darker. It's not necessarily heavier or fast; I think it resonates because of where we are right now as citizens of the U.S. and this crazy time."

Though they didn't exactly plan for it, the band's union seems to be divine timing. "What gives me hope is our union as a band has never been stronger, and that's a great thing to have," Hajjar says. "That's what gives me the most pleasure, that we're gonna work our hardest at playing the old songs and the songs we have now."

NJACKSON@OCWEEKLY.COM

AT THE DRIVE-IN
perform with Le Butcherettes at the Shrine Auditorium, 649 W. Jefferson Blvd., Los Angeles; www.shrineauditorium.com. Sat., 9 p.m. \$43. All ages.



STEVE ST. JEAN

OK, WHO'S FIRST?



KATIE HOVLAND

Take Cover!

Me First and the Gimme Gimmes throw pop music into the mosh pit
BY JOSH CHESLER

Calling the Gimme Gimmes a “punk rock boy band” may seem a little strange at first, but as the genre’s premier cover band, it’s an accolade that’s not undeserved. If you ask lead singer Spike Slawson, the first half of that title is just as bizarre and out of place as calling a bunch of middle-aged rockers a “boy band.” But, he says, “I kind of dig that. Most of us are at least 50 or flirting with the idea of being 50, so being a boy band has its own kind of irony around it, and then there’s the whole punk-rock thing.”

“Punk rock is such a weird thing to be serious about in 2017,” continues Slawson, who also currently performs with Filthy Thieving Bastards and the Re-Volts after parting ways with Swingin’ Utters in 2012. “The most punk-rock thing I’ve heard recently was that there are people throwing raves in a sewer. I hate rave music and techno, but people went and threw a fucking party in a sewer. If that’s not punk spirit, what is? Who cares if they were wearing the uniform or listening to the music? So much of punk rock sounds like a fucking Toyota commercial now anyway.”

Regardless of how serious you take your punk rock, there’s no denying the Gimme Gimmes—which include members of NOFX, Lagwagon, No Use for a Name and Foo Fighters—have made one hell of a mark over the past 22 years with chunky, distorted covers of everyone from Boyz II Men and the Dixie Chicks to Styx and Lady Gaga. Slawson believes more original bands should treat their material like cover songs; it’s what prevents the Gimme Gimmes from getting wrapped up in one another’s egos or spending too much time perfecting how to convey the exact meaning of a song. “It’s really weird because it’s

more popular than anything original or any other cover band I’ve ever done,” Slawson says. “A lot of people treat this stuff as an afterthought, but it’s sort of eclipsed some of our so-called main projects. I don’t have a problem with that, and I can’t knock it because if something pays some of the fucking bills, that frees me up to involve myself in so-called serious music.”

And now the Gimme Gimmes boast the distinction of being the only punk-rock cover band to release a greatest-hits record. *Rake It In: The Greatest Hits* features a wide range of other artists’ hits while also celebrating the band’s ridiculous live shows, which Slawson says is their Americanized take on the poppy German Schlager culture of the ’80s. “The best thing about this greatest-hits release is that it’s an overview of our live presentation, which is what I’m most proud of,” Slawson says. “There’s something about putting on a costume that gives you a character—whether it’s an embellishment of yourself or a completely separate personality—that helps you jump around and act like an idiot onstage while still feeling like I’m presenting something that’s weird, transgressive and fun.”

Of course, the Gimme Gimmes are really all about having fun. As long as both the band and the fans are enjoying themselves, Slawson knows everyone is doing their jobs. “There are many layers of irony that we hope people can unironically enjoy,” Slawson says. “Or they can enjoy it ironically—whatever.”

ME FIRST AND THE GIMME GIMMES
perform with Kid Congo and the Pink
Monkey Birds at the Observatory, 3505 S.
Harbor, Santa Ana, (714) 957-0600; www.observatoryoc.com. Fri., 8 p.m. \$22. All ages.

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perform with Big Monsta, Parker Macy and Greg Johnson at Wayfarer, 843 W. 19th St., Costa Mesa, (949) 764-0093; www.wayfarercm.com. Every Mon., 9 p.m. Through May 29. Free. 21+.

The new EP from Shape Pitaki, *Let's Get Gnarly & Chill*, has a way of sounding new and old at the same time. There's an automatic nostalgia to their songwriting, which can be difficult to achieve without writing rock songs about the same topics that have already been explored a thousand times. But while Shape Pitaki's influences seem quite clear, there is no doubt they've managed to create something that has a life all its own. The eclectic balance of punk, '90s alt-rock and a slice of country gives the EP, which was released in February, its personality and showcases the musical diversity of Shane Thompson (vocals/guitar), Greg Johnson (lead guitar/vocals) and Mike Willson (drums).

We recently talked with Thompson about the band, their newest release, their Monday-night residency at the Wayfarer, and their intent to hit the road and release another EP.

OC WEEKLY: How would you describe your sound?

SHANE THOMPSON: We are influenced by '90s bands. Our first album was called *Lonely This Is*, and it was a full-length with a lot of Foo Fighters vibes, or even Pixies, Weezer, Smashing Pumpkins. Then [with *Let's Get Gnarly & Chill*], we went a little bit more eclectic. We have one song on there that sounds pretty punk rock, and then another that's more pop rock, and then another that's country-influenced, and then others that are hard rock. We're trying to have more fun and see what we could make while having a bunch of different influences.

Can you tell me about the process of your latest release?

Going into the studio, Mike and I sat down, and we both agreed that we wanted to try to be a little

LOCALS ONLY

» KIM CONLAN

bit raw with some stuff, which involved recording live with the three of us in the room. The first song, "Good Times," was definitely recorded live. . . . We thought, "Let's just go in there and try to get the good stuff without overthinking it too much." And Mike is super-helpful being a wonderful engineer and producer himself. He's a great guy to have on your team and runs a top-notch quality studio MAPS.

Let's talk about your residency at the Wayfarer this month. How has each night been special for you so far?

I thought about the different influences we have and wanted to do a separate theme each night. We just did our "surf night" with the Hypno Rings, who are an acid-jazz band, and then the Jetties, who are kind of like the Growlers meets the Stones meets Sublime. And next will be punk rock, the following will be blues, after that will be indie rock, and the last will be hard rock. And MAPS and ThunderKing Brewing craft coffee are sponsoring it.

What's to come for the rest of your 2017?

We just got confirmed for the OC Fair on July 27, and we're excited since it will be our first time playing there. [Before that] we've got a show up at the Silverlake Lounge on July 24. Then we're trying to get a Northwest tour booked for the fall, toward the end of September and early October, and make our way up the coast from here to Seattle. And then we'll be back in the studio to record another EP; as of right now, the working title is *Let's Get Gnarly & Die*. And then we're going to do another music video. That's what it's all about: staying busy and keeping that momentum going.

Hey, Orange County/Long Beach musicians & bands! Mail your music, contact info, high-res photos & impending show dates for possible review to: **Locals Only, OC Weekly**, 18475 Bandilier Circle, Fountain Valley, CA 92708. Or email your link to: localsonly@ocweekly.com.

THIS WEEK

FRIDAY

ENANITOS VERDES: 7 p.m., \$55. House of Blues at Anaheim GardenWalk, 400 W. Disney Way, Ste. 337, Anaheim, (714) 778-2583; houseofblues.com/anaheim.

HARRY POTTER AND THE CHAMBER OF SECRETS™ IN CONCERT: 7:30 p.m., \$39. Segerstrom Hall, 600 Town Center Dr., Costa Mesa, (714) 556-2787; scfta.org.

LOS DESPERITOS: 6:30 p.m., free. House of Blues at Anaheim GardenWalk, 400 W. Disney Way, Ste. 337, Anaheim, (714) 778-2583; houseofblues.com/anaheim.

MADISON GROVE: 9 p.m., free. Harvey's Steakhouse, 6060 Warner Ave., Huntington Beach, (714) 842-5111; harveyssteakhouse.com.

MARCIA BALL: 8 p.m. The Coach House, 33157 Camino Capistrano, Ste. C, San Juan Capistrano, (949) 496-8930; thecoachhouse.com.

ME FIRST AND THE GIMME GIMMES: 8 p.m. The Observatory, 3503 S. Harbor Blvd., Santa Ana, (714) 957-0600; observatoryoc.com.

SEGA GENECEIDE: 10 p.m., free. La Cave, 1695 Irvine Ave., Costa Mesa, (949) 646-7944; lacaverestaurant.com.

SHWAYZE: 8 p.m., \$20. The Yost Theater, 307 N. Spurgeon St., Santa Ana, (888) 862-9573; yosttheater.com.

SUBURBAN LEGENDS AND PILFERS: 6:30 p.m., \$15. The Parish at House of Blues at Anaheim GardenWalk, 400 W. Disney Way, Ste. 337, Anaheim; houseofblues.com/anaheim.

TWIN FORKS: 8 p.m., \$18. Constellation Room at the Observatory, 3503 S. Harbor Blvd., Santa Ana, (714) 957-0600; constellationroom.com.

SATURDAY

ALL THEM WITCHES: 9 p.m., \$13. Constellation Room at the Observatory, 3503 S. Harbor Blvd., Santa Ana, (714) 957-0600; constellationroom.com.

BATTLE OF THE BLUES BANDS—SIX STRING SHOOTOUT: noon, free. Orange County Market Place, 88 Fair Dr., Costa Mesa, (949) 723-6660; ocmarketplace.com.

BOOTS & BIKINIS COUNTRY MUSIC BEACH PARTY: 4 p.m., free before 10 p.m.; bootsandbikinisoc.com. Baja Beach Cafe, 2332 W. Coast Hwy., Newport Beach, (949) 673-8444; bajabeachcafe.com.

DILATED PEOPLES: 8 p.m. The Observatory, 3503 S. Harbor Blvd., Santa Ana, (714) 957-0600; observatoryoc.com.

HARRY POTTER AND THE CHAMBER OF SECRETS™ IN CONCERT: 2 p.m., \$39. Segerstrom Hall, 600 Town Center Dr., Costa Mesa, (714) 556-2787; scfta.org.

HI-TONE: 11 p.m. The Observatory, 3503 S. Harbor Blvd., Santa Ana, (714) 957-0600; observatoryoc.com.

MAD ABOUT BLUES: 6:30 p.m., free. House of Blues at Anaheim GardenWalk, 400 W. Disney Way, Ste. 337, Anaheim, (714) 778-2583; houseofblues.com/anaheim.

RED NOT CHILI PEPPERS: 9:30 p.m., \$15. Gaslamp Restaurant & Bar, 6251 E. Pacific Coast Hwy., Long Beach, (562) 596-4718; thegaslamprestaurant.com.

RIVER OAKS: 7:30 p.m., \$12. The Parish at House of Blues at Anaheim GardenWalk, 400 W. Disney Way, Ste. 337, Anaheim; houseofblues.com/anaheim.

SUNDAY

APOLLO BEBOP BOTTOMLESS BRUNCH: 8 a.m., free. The Gypsy Den, 125 N. Broadway Ave., Santa Ana, (714) 835-8840; gypsypden.com.

BATTLE OF THE BLUES BANDS—SIX STRING SHOOTOUT: noon, free. Orange County Market Place, 88 Fair Dr., Costa Mesa, (949) 723-6660; ocmarketplace.com.

JAMIE SCOLES; POLARTROPICA; PAST HYPE; PHOEBE'S GUITAR: 8 p.m., free. The Continental Room, 115 W. Santa Fe Ave., Fullerton, (714) 469-1879; facebook.com/ContinentalRoom.

MICHAEL PHYSICK: 6:30 p.m., free. House of Blues at Anaheim GardenWalk, 400 W. Disney Way, Ste. 337, Anaheim, (714) 778-2583; houseofblues.com/anaheim.

REAL FRIENDS: 7 p.m., \$20. House of Blues at

Anaheim GardenWalk, 400 W. Disney Way, Ste. 337, Anaheim, (714) 778-2583; houseofblues.com/anaheim.

RICH CHIGGA: 8 p.m. Constellation Room at the Observatory, 3503 S. Harbor Blvd., Santa Ana, (714) 957-0600; constellationroom.com.

THURSTON MOORE GROUP: 9 p.m. Constellation Room at the Observatory, 3503 S. Harbor Blvd., Santa Ana, (714) 957-0600; constellationroom.com.

WORLD FAMOUS GOSPEL BRUNCH AT HOUSE OF BLUES ANAHEIM: 1 p.m., \$45. House of Blues at Anaheim GardenWalk, 400 W. Disney Way, Ste. 337, Anaheim, (714) 778-2583; houseofblues.com/anaheim.

MONDAY

THE KNITTS; CALICO: 9 p.m.-2 a.m., free. The Continental Room, 115 W. Santa Fe Ave., Fullerton, (714) 469-1879; facebook.com/ContinentalRoom.

POMO: 8 p.m., \$15. Constellation Room at the Observatory, 3503 S. Harbor Blvd., Santa Ana, (714) 957-0600; constellationroom.com.

POPTONE: 8 p.m., \$35. House of Blues at Anaheim GardenWalk, 400 W. Disney Way, Ste. 337, Anaheim, (714) 778-2583; houseofblues.com/anaheim.

REDNECK RODEO: 6:30 p.m., free. House of Blues at Anaheim GardenWalk, 400 W. Disney Way, Ste. 337, Anaheim, (714) 778-2583; houseofblues.com/anaheim.

TUESDAY

ALLENSWORTH; WITH STRANGERS: 9 p.m., free. The Continental Room, 115 W. Santa Fe Ave., Fullerton, (714) 469-1879; facebook.com/ContinentalRoom.

BELLHAUNTS; BLESSED; THE DEEPSEA GOES; ECV: 8 p.m., free. The Republic Fullerton, 912 Williamson Ave., Fullerton, (714) 213-8068.

CHRIS BROWN—THE PARTY TOUR: 7:30 p.m., \$39.95-\$229.95. Honda Center, 2695 E. Katella Ave., Anaheim, (714) 704-2400; hondacenter.com.

ERIC TURNER BAND: 6:30 p.m., free. House of Blues at Anaheim GardenWalk, 400 W. Disney Way, Ste. 337, Anaheim, (714) 778-2583; houseofblues.com/anaheim.

FREDDIE GIBBS: 8 p.m. The Observatory, 3503 S. Harbor Blvd., Santa Ana, (714) 957-0600; observatoryoc.com.

LARRY JUNE: 9 p.m., \$10. Constellation Room at the Observatory, 3503 S. Harbor Blvd., Santa Ana, (714) 957-0600; constellationroom.com.

MARTY STUART: 7 p.m., \$25. House of Blues at Anaheim GardenWalk, 400 W. Disney Way, Ste. 337, Anaheim, (714) 778-2583; houseofblues.com/anaheim.

WEDNESDAY

BROTHER ALI WITH SA-ROC: 11 p.m. The Observatory, 3503 S. Harbor Blvd., Santa Ana, (714) 957-0600; observatoryoc.com.

E-40: 7 p.m., \$30. House of Blues at Anaheim GardenWalk, 400 W. Disney Way, Ste. 337, Anaheim, (714) 778-2583; houseofblues.com/anaheim.

HO9909: 7 p.m., \$15. Constellation Room at the Observatory, 3503 S. Harbor Blvd., Santa Ana, (714) 957-0600; constellationroom.com.

JOJO: 8 p.m. The Observatory, 3503 S. Harbor Blvd., Santa Ana, (714) 957-0600; observatoryoc.com.

SELENA NIGHT: 9 p.m., free. The Continental Room, 115 W. Santa Fe Ave., Fullerton, (714) 469-1879; facebook.com/ContinentalRoom.

SMINO WITH MONTE BOOKER; JAY2; BARI: 10 p.m., \$15. Constellation Room at the Observatory, 3503 S. Harbor Blvd., Santa Ana, (714) 957-0600; constellationroom.com.

THURSDAY, MAY 18

BEE GEES GOLD—THE ULTIMATE BEE GEES TRIBUTE: 8 p.m. The Coach House, 33157 Camino Capistrano, Ste. C, San Juan Capistrano, (949) 496-8930; thecoachhouse.com.

BREWFISH: 9 p.m. The Federal Bar, 102 Pine Ave., Long Beach, (562) 435-2000; lb.thefederalbar.com.

METRO BOOMIN: 11 p.m., \$20. The Observatory, 3503 S. Harbor Blvd., Santa Ana, (714) 957-0600; observatoryoc.com.

TESTAMENT: 6 p.m., \$29.50. House of Blues at Anaheim GardenWalk, 400 W. Disney Way, Ste. 337, Anaheim, (714) 778-2583; houseofblues.com/anaheim.

THUNDERCAT: 8 p.m. The Observatory, 3503 S. Harbor Blvd., Santa Ana, (714) 957-0600; observatoryoc.com.

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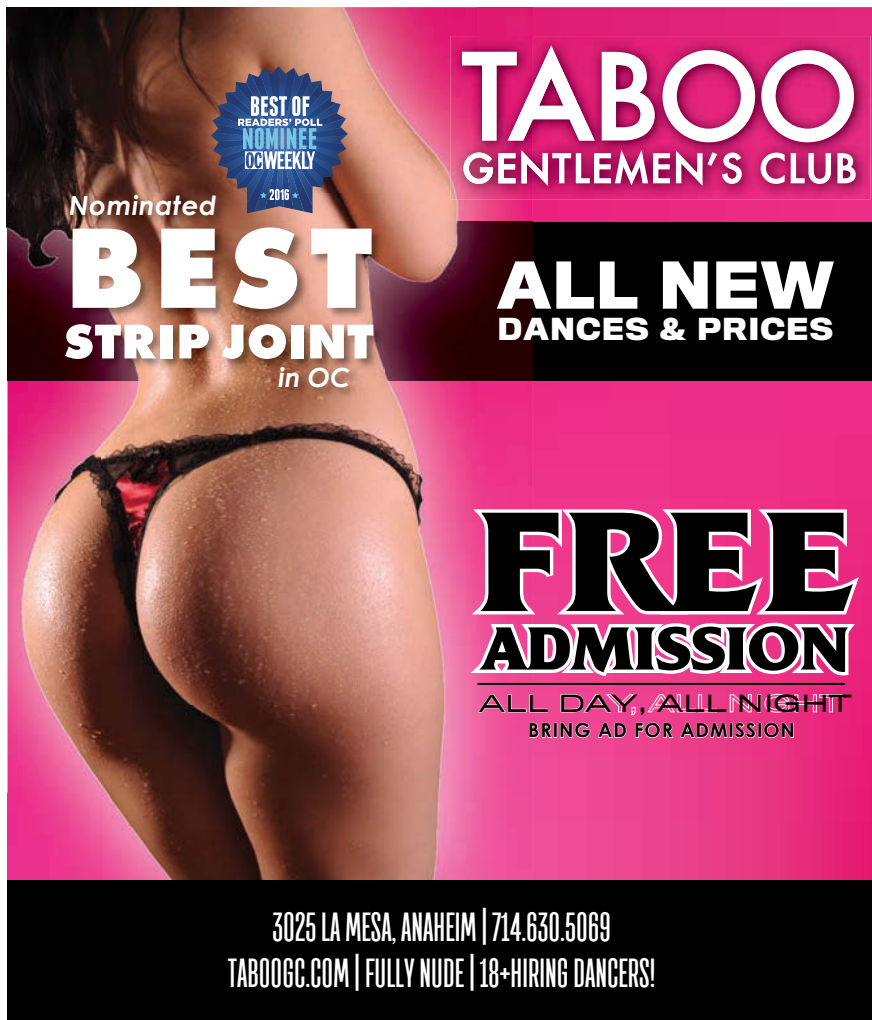
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Traps and Triggers

My husband is nearly 20 years older than me, which was never an issue early in our relationship. However, for approximately the past eight years, we have not been able to have fulfilling sex because my husband can't keep an erection for more than a few thrusts. I love my husband, and I am committed to our family, but I miss full PIV sex. I'm still fairly young, and I enjoy sex, but I feel like I am mourning the death of my sex life. I miss the intimate connection and powerful feeling of sex with a man. My husband tries to please me, but oral sex is just okay, and toys don't have the same effect. We have tried Viagra a few times, but it gave him a terrible headache. I try to brush it off because I don't want to embarrass him. I am curious about casual relationships, but I fear they wouldn't stay casual. Also, I would feel guilty being with another man even though my husband said I could do it one time. On one hand, I feel like I should be able to have a fulfilling sex life. But on the other hand, I don't want to be a cheater.

Now On To Having Awkwardly Realistic Discussions

It's not cheating if you have your husband's permission, NOTHARD, but fucking another man could still blow up your marriage—even if you manage to keep it casual.

Story time: I knew this straight couple. They were good together, they loved each other, and they had a strong sexual connection. (Spoiler alert: *my use of the past tense*.) The woman was all about monogamy, but her boyfriend had always wanted to have a threesome. She didn't want to be the reason he never got to do something he'd been fantasizing about since age 13, so she told her boyfriend that if the opportunity ever presented itself, he could go for it. So long as the sex was safe and he was honest with her, he could have a threesome *one time*.

The opportunity presented itself, the sex was safe, he was honest—and my friend spent a week ricocheting between devastated and furious before finally dumping her devastated and flummoxed boyfriend. During a drunken postmortem, my friend told me she wanted her boyfriend to be able to do it but didn't want him to actually do it. She didn't want to be the reason he *couldn't*, she wanted to be the reason he *didn't*. So her permission to have a threesome "one time" was a test (one he didn't know he was taking) and a trap (one he couldn't escape from). I urged my friend to take her boyfriend back—if he would have her—but he'd touched another woman with the tip of his penis (two women, actually), which meant he didn't love her the way she thought he did, the way she deserved to be loved, etc., and consequently, he couldn't be allowed to touch her with the tip of his penis ever again.

Back to you, NOTHARD: My first reaction to your letter was "You've got your husband's okay to fuck some other dude—go for it." Then I reread your letter and thought, "Wait, this could be a test and a trap." You say you've brushed off the issue to spare your husband's feelings, but he may sense it's an issue, and consciously or subconsciously, this is his way of finding out. If you take him up on his offer "one time" and you make the mistake of being honest with him about it, he may be just as devastated as my friend was.

So don't take your husband up on his offer—not yet. Have a few more conversations about your sex life instead and address nonmonogamy/openness *generally*, not nonmonogamy/openness as a work-around for his dick. There may be some solo adventures he'd like to have, there may be invigorating new sexual adventures you could enjoy as a couple (maybe he'd love to go down on two women at once?), or he may rescind or restate his offer to let you fuck some other dude one time. Get

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clarity—crystal clarity—before proceeding.

Finally, NOTHARD, there are other erectile-dysfunction drugs out there, drugs that may not have the same side effects for your husband. And low to very low doses of Viagra—doses less likely to induce a headache—are effective for some men. Good luck.

Partner and I adopted a 2.5-year-old mutt a month ago. We are also trying to get pregnant and are having sex every day for 15-day stretches a month. Dog does NOT like being shut out—we love dog but do not love the idea of him being in the room. Should we get over it? Should dog get over it? What is dog/human sexual privacy etiquette?

Don't Oversee Getting It On

I'm not into pups, human or otherwise, but I live with two actual dogs and, man, if those dogs could talk. Some dogs loudly object to their owners fucking, others don't. If your dog barks when you're fucking, I can see why you'd want to keep him out of the room. But if he just wants to curl up in a corner and lick his ass for a minute before dozing off, what's the big deal?

I am a 30-year-old woman with some sexual hang-ups I'd like to get past for the sake of my husband. When I was 14, I was in a relationship with a guy who wasn't nice to me. One particular incident sticks in my mind: He pulled my hair and tried to force my head down while I was saying no and trying to get away. He shoved me and called me a prude. Another time, he convinced me to let him go down on me (I finally agreed), but then bit me. I eventually broke up with him after spending too much time putting up with the crap. For a long time, I hated oral sex and freaked out at any sexual interaction. I had a great college boyfriend who always asked, "Is this okay?" and was generally very attuned to any "no" signals I gave, which was a turn-on for me. I got over my past crappy experiences. My husband is all about what gives us both pleasure, but he has always been up-front about being interested in some (tame) kinky stuff. I am still turned on by "Is this okay?" and eye contact during sex, but any time we try to do anything even a little off the wall—me tied up, blindfolds, etc.—my ears start ringing and I feel like I can't breathe. I'm trying to find a way to spice things up and fulfill my husband's desires, and I cannot find a way around it. How do we move past "just" vanilla?

Reconsidering Otherwise Unlikely GGG Habits

If your shitty early teenage sexual experiences—if those violations and sexual assaults—are still affecting you 16 years later, ROUGH, that suggests PTSD. Getting past this will be gradual; it may require therapy—counseling, a support group, a shrink.

While you're getting help, ROUGH, you and your partner can explore some *mild* non-vanilla moves. Mindful breathing, like the kids are into these days, may help, and so will incorporating some soothing sensory input, e.g., soft lighting, calming music, scented something-or-other if you enjoy scented somethings. And whatever your husband is doing—whatever you two are doing together—he can and should ask, "Is this okay?" at every step. It turns you on, and it makes you feel safe. You need to feel safe *and* in control. Slowly, slowly, slowly, you may be able to advance to more aggressive play. It's possible, however, that rough sex might be permanently off the table for you, ROUGH, and that's not something you should feel guilty about. There are other ways to spice up your sex life with other (tame) kinks that don't trigger you.

Check out Dan on Blabbermouth, The Stranger's political podcast (thestranger.com/blabbermouth). Contact Dan via email at mail@savageandlove.net, follow him on Twitter (@fakedansavage), and visit ITMFA.org.



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New Generation in Santa Ana has an exceptional selection of vape cartridges; I had my eye on the Wiz Khalifa OG. Pure Vape uses a standard 510 threaded battery, which I plugged in as soon as I got home. Even though it was classified as indica, it didn't give me a heavy-lidded high; instead, it was more like a sativa.

The high was strong and lasted for quite a while. It had a great taste very much like the actual flower, and after about five good hits, I had a substantial buzz. At \$25 per 0.5 grams, the Wiz Khalifa OG is a great vape for a nice evening of summer fun or a wake-and-bake session. While at New Generation, I also



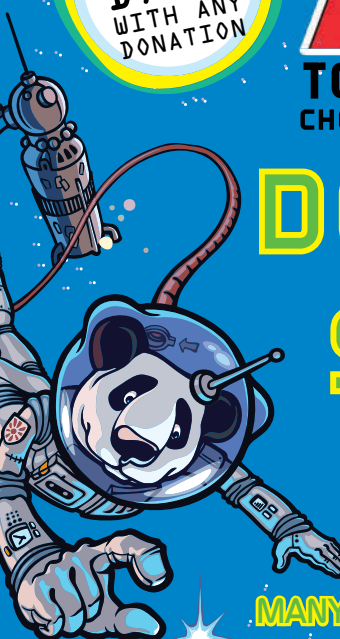
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picked up some Speakeasy lip balms for \$6 apiece. As lip protection, they are pretty good, but with the addition of CBD or THC, you also get the therapeutic advantages of cannabis! The dosage is very small (just 10 milligrams), so don't expect to get *high* high—but you will get *happy* happy!

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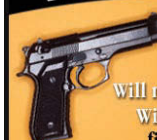
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services

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Position Wanted

Audio/Speech Processing Algorithm Engineers
Certified Public Accountant (Irvine, CA) Perform financial statement audits for CPA firm clients. California CPA license req'd. Resume to: PK LLP, 2100 Main St., #200, Irvine, CA 92614.

Sr. Software Engineering Manager sought by Autobytel Inc. for company's software dev/pmt & delivery efforts for Irvine, CA location. Min. Req.: BS + 5 yrs exp. Please email resume to joselynnc@autobytel.com

Chemical Engineer
Recon Engineering & Construction, Inc. is hiring in Los Alamitos. Must have at least 2 years of progressive experience as a Chemical Engineer. Assess chemical equipment and processes to improve performance while ensuring compliance with safety and environmental regulations. Full-time. Mail Resume to P.O. Box 93120, Long Beach, CA 90809

Sr. SAP MM Consultant, MS deg. in CIS, IT, MIS or related & 1 yr exp. Exp. in Supply Chain Optimization. Skills: SAP MM, Tableau Reporting & Analysis, VBA, SQL, MS Visio, Six Sigma Methodology. Travel &/or reloc. throughout the US req'd. Mail resume to Morris & Willner Partners, Inc., 201 Sandpointe Ave, Ste. 200, Santa Ana, CA, 92707

Software Engineer (Multiple Openings) to develop, implement and maintain client-server applications and business logic layers using Microsoft Visual Studio, Microsoft SQL Server and stored procedures. Code software components in C#, C++, Visual Basic, .NET, SQL, and related scripting languages. Perform web development using HTML5, JavaScript, and related technologies. Requires Bachelor's degree in Computer Science. Job site and interview: Irvine, CA. Mail your resume to Human Resources at Prism Software Corporation at 15500-C Rockfield Blvd. Irvine, CA 92618.

Landscape Architectural Drafter: Prepare landscape architectural designs. Req'd: BA in Landscape Architecture or related. Mail resume to Lifescapes International, Inc., 4930 Campus Drive, Newport Beach, CA 92660

services

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Position Wanted

Market Research Analyst
Analyze statistical data to forecast future market trends & FPD industry, gather info. re: company customers/competitors, analyze conditions that may impact sales by researching market conditions, changes in industry. Must be able to perform job duties. Bachelor's degree in Economics req'd. Resume: Signet FPD, Inc. 75 Columbia, Aliso Viejo CA 92656.

Development Chef (Oceanside, CA). Develop super-food recipes that are rich in compounds considered beneficial to a person's health and vitality. 2 years of experience as Head Chef. Mail resume to Mark Olson, CEO, Chemi-Source, Inc., 2665 Vista Pacific Drive, Oceanside, CA 92056.

Certified Public Accountant (Irvine, CA) Perform financial statement audits for CPA firm clients. California CPA license req'd. Resume to: PK LLP, 2100 Main St., #200, Irvine, CA 92614.

Computer Network Support Specialist (Irvine, CA). Analyze network data to improve website functionality, define network usage and server function. Bachelor's or higher degree in computer science. 1 year experience. Experience may be completed before or after university degree. Resume to Allen Anthonsamy, SOLO Business Systems, Inc., 15041-A Bake Parkway, Irvine, CA 92618.

CFO (Garden Grove, CA) Supervise employees performing financial reporting, accounting, billing, collections, payroll&budgeting duties; Coordinate&direct the financial planning, budgeting, procurement/ investment activities of all/ part of an organization; Develop internal control policies, guidelines&procedures for activities such as budget administration, cash&credit management&accounting. 40 hrs/wk. Bachelor's in Business Administration or related req'd and Min 5 yrs of experience as a CFO or related req'd. Resume to Chun-Ha Insurance Services, Inc. Attn: Minsung Ko, 9122 Garden Grove Blvd, Garden Grove, CA 92844

Bioinformatics Associate, Irvine, CA. Designing analysis strategies, algorithms, and tools for genome-wide DNA methylation and next-generation sequencing. MS in Bioinformatics & 1 yr experience. Mail resume to Angela Kim, HR Mgr, Zymo Research Corporation, 17062 Murphy Ave., Irvine, CA 92614.

services

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Position Wanted

Ericsson Inc. Customer Project Manager, Irvine, CA. Telecomm & RF Eng project & Financial Mgmt. Up to 10% domestic travel required. Mail resume to Ericsson Inc. 6300 Legacy Drive, R1-C12 Plano, TX 75024, Job #17-CA-3581.

Project Manager (Master's degree w/ 5 yrs exp or Bachelor's degree w/ 7 yrs exp; Major: CS, Engg, Math or equiv.; Other suitable qualifications acceptable) - Irvine, CA. Job entails working w/ & exp to incl 3 yrs as a PMO Manager or Head. Exp in using PMP standards & protocols, MS Project, MS Project Server, Visio, AnyChart, WBSPro, Celoxis, Resource Guru, FinancialForce PSA, FastTrack Schedule, MS Windows Server 2008, Excel & Powerpoint to build complex Macros & Pivot tables, JIRA, CA Technologies Open Workbench, SmartSheet, Microsoft OnePager Pro, WorkPlan by SESCOI, OmniPlan, Artemis Project view, Open VMS & TCP/IP. Relocation & travel to unanticipated locations w/in USA possible. Send resumes to HTN Wireless Inc., Attn: HR, 20 Truman St, Suite 211, Irvine, California 92620.

Turbo Ion, Inc. located in Buena Park is looking for a Vice President of Business Development to add to our team. Applicants must have at least three years experience and completed a bachelor degree in business and/or finance and knowledge of the beauty industry. Please send a cover letter and resume to Elyssia Musolino at 6800 8th Street, Buena Park, CA 90620.

Accountant (Buena Park, CA) Perform accounting duties for food service business. Associate's in Accounting/Business related. Resume to: D&J Ko Ko Inc. 8532 Commonwealth Ave, Buena Park, CA 90621

Community Manager: f/t; Nonprofit Community Org.; Perform Community Service mgr's duty; M.A. in Social Work or Related; Place of Employment: 7212 Orangethorpe Ave., Ste 9A, Buena Park, CA 90621; Resumes: Korean Community Services, Inc. @ 8633 Knott Ave., Buena Park, CA 90620

Software Engineer
Jobsite Newport Beach, CA, apply to HR at Phunware, Inc., tno1azzo@phunware.com.

Market Research Analyst: Apply by mail only to Pacmet International, Inc., 26040 Acero, #214, Mission Viejo, CA 92691, attn: President.

services

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Position Wanted

Administrative Assistant: Perform admin. assistant functions, answer calls, provide info to clients, process mails/emails, draft letters/invoices, record info into database. Req'd: Bachelor's in Business Admin. or related. Mail Resume: M+D PROPERTIES, 6940 Beach Blvd. #D-501, Buena Park, CA 90621

Market Research Analyst (La Palma, CA) Perform market research/analysis for logistics services. Master's in communication/marketing related. Resume to: Korchina Logistics USA, Inc. 4 Centerpointe Dr. #120, La Palma, CA 90623

Accountant (Anaheim, CA) Perform financial and managerial accounting duties. Master's in Accounting or related req'd. Resume to: Interlog Corp. 1295 N Knollwood Cir, Anaheim, CA 92801

ENGINEERING
Staff Process Eng'r in Foothill Ranch, CA. Review & modify prod. schedules, eng'g specifications, orders, & related info regarding mfg methods, procedures, & activities in the indus. manufacture of optical prod. Reqs: Master's + 2 yrs exp. Apply: Oakley, Inc., Attn: S. Shrivastav, Job ID# SE1031, 1 Icon, Foothill Ranch, CA 92610

Business Development Specialist: Conduct market research to identify potential market sales for insurance company. Req'd: Bachelor's in Mktng., Bus. Econ., or related. Mail Resume: Golden Bells Insurance Agency, Inc. 1151 N. Magnolia Ave. #101, Anaheim, CA 92801

ASTROLOGERS, PSYCHICS, TAROT READERS NEEDED! P/T F/T \$12-\$36 per hour. tamblien en Espanol. 954-524-9029

MARKET RESEARCH ANALYST
Research market conditions, competitors & forecast sales trends; Master's Degree in related fields; Mail resume to: ACI LAW GROUP, PC (J.J.KIM & ASSOCIATES) Attn: Jin Kim, 6 Centerpointe Dr. Ste. 630, La Palma, CA 90623

Marketing Specialist (Costa Mesa, CA). Conduct market research for sign company. Three years of experience. Experience must include online marketing and cost management. Mail resume to Azadeh Orouji, owner, United Marketing and Advertising, LLC, 3303 Harbor Blvd., Suite E-6, Costa Mesa, CA 92626.

services

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Position Wanted

Family Support Worker: Research & locate pgms. to assist families with the mentally disabled. Req'd: BA/BS in Social Work, HR, or Bus. Admin. Mail resume: Mental Health Family Mission 9778 Katella Ave. #102 Anaheim, CA 92804

Accountant
B.A. in Acct. or Bus. Admin. req'd. Job Site: Santa Ana, CA 92707. Send resumes to: Ony Glo, Inc., 3250 Wilshire Bl., # 1600, LA, CA 90010, Attn: J. Oh.

Food Services Manager
2 yrs. of college level edu. in Gen. Studies, Mktng, or Advert. req'd. Send resumes to: Jack's Fusion, Inc., 427 E 17th St. Ste. D, Costa Mesa, CA 92627, Attn: J. Cho.

Architectural Designer (Irvine, CA) Perform architectural design duties. Master's in Architecture required. Resume to: HPA, Inc. 1883 Bardeen Ave, #100, Irvine, CA 92612

Associate Pastor, Bethel Presbyterian Church of So. California, M.A. req'd. Send resume to 5600 Crescent Ave., Buena Park, CA 90620

Education Consular (OC, CA) Assist with college admission, provide career & academic counselling, research/evaluate educational PRGM. MA in education, 3 yr exp in education, + if exp with Intl std; PPS credential, NCDA; proficiency in MSO, Excel, PPT, ACCESS, Prezi, Wechat Pub PLAT, CRM S/W (EC, Hubspot), and survey S/W; Exc oral & written COMM skills; Strong ability in handling multi-tasks W/ set time frame; ability id complex prob, eval opt & Impl Soln. Apply to New Dream Services, Inc. 2082 Business Center Dr. Suite 225, Irvine, CA 92612

Pastor: Prepare & deliver worship services. Req'd: MA in Divinity, Theology, or Religion. Mail Resume: Joyful Jesus Church 7651 5th St. Buena Park, CA 90621

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3124 W. Lincoln Ave. Anaheim | 714.385.7814

Ease Canna: FTP- All 8th will be weighed out to 5GRAMS!! | 2435 E. Orangethorpe Ave., Fullerton, CA 92831 | 714-309-7772

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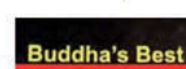
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